Introduction & Highlights

DT: December 14, 2015
TO: Mr. Chairman, Kelly Ward, Hayley Dierker, Ty Matsdorf, Dan Sena, Aaron Trujillo
FR: DCCC Research
RE: BRL Research

The following report contains research on Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee Chairman Ben Ray Luján, representative for New Mexico's Third Congressional District.

Research for this book was conducted by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee's Research Department and Gordon Loewen Research between February and November 2015.

As this document is meant to focus primarily on topline information regarding Luján's career – particularly as it could relate to or impact the work of the DCCC – this research report has intentionally and unintentionally left out certain material. Consequently, there may be omissions or areas that need further exploring.

Should further information be needed on a particular topic, please feel free to contact us.

Significant effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this report. However, before using the materials contained in this report for use in any public forum, always double-check the facts to verify your claims.

The DCCC Research Department is available at all times to assist in such fact-checking efforts.

Should further information be needed on a particular topic, please feel free to contact us.

TOPIC	HIGHLIGHTS
Thematics	
Nepotism	✓ *Dating back to his 2004 campaign for PRC, Luján has repeatedly been accused of benefiting from political patronage as a result of Speaker Luján's influence* ✓ *Luján and Speaker Luján shared a mailing address at the family compound and Speaker Luján filed Luján's campaign finance report for him in 2004* ✓ *In 2008, Speaker Luján reversed his position on a ballot eligibility bill that would help Luján's congressional bid and was accused of working*

	behind the scenes to remove primary opponents from the ballot ✓ *Luján was appointed administrative services director for the Department of Cultural Affairs in 2003 – a position the Cultural Affairs Secretary noted was usually filed by someone with administrative & finance experience*
Inexperience	✓ *In 2004, the Santa Fe Reporter endorsed Luján's primary and general election opponents, noting that Luján was "significantly less knowledgeable" than his opponent* ✓ *Luján received an appointment as administrative services director at the Department of Cultural Affairs despite little administrative experience* ✓ *Luján didn't complete his college degree until 2007*
Ethical Issues	✓ *During his 2008 congressional campaign, Luján pledged to reject money from federal lobbyists* o *In 2011, Luján confirmed that he had changed his position on accepting federal lobbyist money, citing the Citizens United decision and the need to have "the resources necessary to fight back"* o *Luján's congressional campaign received significant support from state-registered lobbyists with ties to Speaker Luján* ✓ *In 2011, a police officer convicted of DWI alleged that he was dismissed because of his role in an FBI drug investigation that implicated the city manager. The city manager and a police deputy claimed they had been told the investigation implicated Luján but the officer claimed it implicated scandal-plagued PRC commissioner Jerome Block Jr. Block then alleged that Luján &*

	Speaker Luján were manipulating the officer as part of a cover-up.
Career & Politics	
Campaign Finance	✓ *Luján took out and repaid a $200,000 loan for his 2008 campaign with an added $31,420 in loan interest payments* o *The loans are not listed on Luján's personal financial disclosures* ✓ *In 2009, the Luján campaign paid $54,000 in back taxes to the federal government, including nearly $14,000 in interest and penalties, after underpaying its payroll taxes in 2008* ✓ *In 2015, Luján donated to charity $2500 he received during the 2008 campaign from Sen. Menendez*
Election 2004	✓ *Luján's primary opponent attacked him for taking thousands in contributions from lobbyists representing companies regulated by the PRC*
Election 2008	✓ *During his 2008 congressional campaign, Luján pledged to reject money from federal lobbyists* o *Luján's congressional campaign received significant support from state-registered lobbyists with ties to Speaker Luján* ✓ *In 2008, Speaker Luján reversed his position on a ballot eligibility bill that would help Luján's congressional bid and was accused of working behind the scenes to remove primary opponents from the ballot* ✓ *Luján's primary opponent alleged Luján was hiding his homosexuality and that his family had hired a woman to pose as his girlfriend* ✓ *Luján's opponents attacked him over corruption*

	issues at the PRC and Treasurer's Office and taxpayer funded trips out-of-state at PRC
Pre-House of Representatives Career	✓ *Luján worked in casinos on and off from 1993-2001 – though the NM Gaming Control Board did not identify any gaming work permits for Luján* ✓ *Luján received an appointment as administrative services director at the Department of Cultural Affairs despite little administrative experience* ✓ *In at least 3 instances, Lujan failed to provide the legislative analysis requested of him while at the Department of Cultural Affairs* ✓ *Luján had a 97% attendance rate at PRC meetings* ✓ *Luján prompted the state of New Mexico to begin gathering health insurance claim denial data and a state lawmaker called him "instrumental" in passing legislation to close insurance coverage loopholes* ✓ *In 2005, a former state employee sued Luján and two other commissioners, alleging he had been fired for recommending an investigation into a PRC bribe solicitation. PRC settled the case for an undisclosed amount in 2006.* ✓ *In 2008, the Luján campaign initially stood by PRC nominee Jerome Block Jr. in the wake of a previously undisclosed arrest record. When Block was indicted on felony corruption charges in 2009, Luján declined to explicitly call for resignation.* ✓ *In 2007, a jury awarded more than $840,000 in damages to a former PRC employee who alleged sexual harassment & retaliation by a commissioner and staffer. Luján condemned the behavior but declined to call for the commissioner's resignation.*

	✓ *In 2007, Luján recused himself from a title insurance appeal case at the request of the NM Land Title Association after it was revealed that Luján had accepted a meeting with a politically influential title company co-owner. Luján suggested the group asked for his recusal because he supported tougher reforms for the title insurance industry.*
House Record	✓ *Luján has had four sponsored bills pass the House and no sponsored bills signed by the President* ✓ *Luján rented district office space from Sonny Otero, a major political donor and developer who made millions from a land deal brokered by Gov. Richardson* ✓ *The Tucumcari Chamber of Commerce donates district office space to Luján for $1 per year* ✓ *Since 2009, Luján has paid hundreds of thousands of dollars in taxpayer-funded bonuses to staff* ✓ *Women earned more on average than men in Luján's office*
Policy	
Agriculture & Land Issues	✓ *Luján voted against barring farm bill payments to entities with income above $250,000* ✓ *Luján joined the NM delegation in opposing food safety rules that critics claimed favored big agriculture*
Budget Issues	✓ *In December 2014, the Albuquerque Journal slammed Luján for opposing the "cromnibus" spending deal, citing the devastating impact of earlier government shutdowns on New Mexico*

	✓ *In January 2013, Luján voted against a short-term debt limit increase* ✓ *In 2009, Luján requested $67 million in earmarks* ✓ *Luján supported reinstating pay-as-you-go spending plan* ✓ *Luján voted against the Budget Control Act* ✓ *Luján voted against piecemeal Republican bills to fund New Mexico's national labs, veterans programs and other important programs during the government shutdown*
Crime & Public Safety	✓ *In 2014, Luján voted against an amendment to end the federal program that allows military equipment to be transferred to local police* ✓ *Luján has voiced support for medical marijuana and said decriminalization should be considered "in some instances"*
Defense & National Security	✓ *In 2013, Luján "declined to take a position" on the nomination of Chuck Hagel as Defense Secretary* ✓ *In 2010, Luján voted against a one year extension of the PATRIOT Act* ✓ *In 2012, Luján voted for FISA reauthorization* ✓ *In 2011, Luján was one of 130 members to vote to strike funding for the Selective Service system*
Disaster Aid	✓ *In January 2013, Luján was one of 51 to vote against adoption of a rule to provide for consideration of $17 billion in Hurricane Sandy relief and recovery efforts*

Education	✓ *In 2014, Luján backed legislation to help create new charter schools* ✓ *In 2013, Luján was one of 31 members to vote against a deal to cap federal student loan rates* ✓ *Luján repeatedly criticized No Child Left Behind on the campaign trail but has also stated that reforms should not drastically reduce the role of the federal government* ✓ *In 2007, Luján proposed instituting a federal minimum wage for teachers*
Energy	✓ *Luján supported cap and trade legislation* ✓ *Luján opposed ethanol subsidies & backed striking ethanol from the Renewable Energy Standard* ✓ *In 2013, Luján offered a poison pill amendment to a bill intended to approve Resolution copper mine* ✓ *Luján has consistently supported natural gas, including expedited permitting of LNG exports and incentives for natural gas vehicles* ✓ *In 2011, Luján voted against an amendment to make permanent the moratorium on Gulf drilling* ✓ *In 2013, Luján was one of a small number of Democrats to vote against a series of amendments that would increase renewable energy funding*
Environment	✓ *In 2011, Luján sided with northern NM cattle grazers against environmentalists in fight over reduced cattle grazing allotments*
Ethics & Campaign	✓ *Luján cosponsored legislation to overturn Citizens United*

Finance	✓ *Luján cosponsored a congressional pay freeze*
Financial Issues	✓ *In 2012, Luján voted to audit the Federal Reserve* ✓ *Luján opposed the bailout and voted against releasing the second half of TARP funds in January 2009* ✓ *Luján sponsored legislation to tax AIG bonuses at 90%*
Foreign Policy	✓ *In 2009, Luján opposed a troop increase in Afghanistan* ✓ *Luján voted with 76 other members to require a special envoy to ease tensions and normalize relations with Iran* ✓ *In November 2009, Luján was one of 22 House members to vote "present" on resolution denouncing UN report accusing Israel of war crimes* ✓ *In 2014, Luján voted against arming Syrian rebels*
Guns	✓ *In 2013, Luján downplayed the importance of an assault weapons ban* ✓ *Luján supported Manchin-Toomey background check deal* ✓ *Luján has repeatedly voted in support of concealed carry reciprocity legislation and against further concealed carry restrictions* ✓ *In February 2011, Luján voted against reporting requirements for multiple firearm importers* ✓ *Luján backed magazine restrictions after initially*

	expressing skepticism ✓ *In 2010, Luján was endorsed by the NRA – he accepted $3500 in contributions in 2010-2011*
Health Care	✓ *In 2103, Luján backed delaying the ACA enrollment deadline in the wake of widespread website problems* ✓ *In 2010, Luján expressed skepticism regarding the proposal to tax Cadillac health plans* ✓ *In 2009 and 2010, Luján was an adamant supporter of the public option and suggested he would support a surtax on wealthy Americans and small business owners to pay for a public option*
Immigration	✓ *Luján advocated for President Obama to take executive action on the deferred deportation policy* ✓ *In 2013, Luján urged DHS to work with the state of New Mexico on implementation of REAL ID given the state's encouragement to undocumented immigrants to apply for driver's licenses* ✓ *In 2009, Luján voted against an amendment to bar the use of federal funds to employ undocumented workers*
Labor	✓ *In 2012 and 2013, Luján backed extensions of the federal civilian pay freeze*
LGBT Issues	✓ *Luján supported marriage equality*
Taxes	✓ *In 2010, Luján voted against extending the Bush tax cuts for two years*

	✓ *In 2011, Luján pledged to support measures to ease the estate tax*
Technology	✓ *In 2014, Luján cosponsored net neutrality legislation* ✓ *In 2011, Luján cosponsored the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA)* ✓ *In 2014, Luján voted against a bill that would allow consumers to unlock their cell phones*
Trade	✓ *In 2011, Luján opposed the South Korea, Colombia and Panama trade deals, citing concerns regarding a loss of manufacturing jobs and intellectual property protections* ✓ *In 2015, the Albuquerque Journal slammed Luján and other delegation Democrats for opposing TPA & TPP*
Transportation	✓ *In 2012, Luján was one of four Democrats to vote to bar federal spending on high-speed rail in California*
Veterans	✓ *In 2015, Luján voted against the MilCon-VA appropriations bill, citing VFW criticism of the bill* ✓ *In 2014, Luján voted against legislation that would have restored benefits cut from military retiree COLA increases at the expense of Medicare* ✓ *In 2014, Luján called for Secretary Shinseki's resignation*

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Methodology

DATABASE	NOTES (e.g., search term(s), URL, etc.)
Nexis – News	Ben Ray Luján AND ATLEAST4(Luján) – May 20, 2011-May 15, 2015 Ben Ray Luján AND ATLEAST2(Luján) – dates prior to May 20, 2011
Nexis – Comprehensive Person Report	Luján Ben! R! in New Mexico
Nexis – Bankruptcy, Judgments, & Liens	Luján Ben
Nexis – Criminal Records	Luján Ben R!
CQ Political Moneyline (Verify via FEC)	Searched Ben Luján on Moneyline & FEC. Additional research should be done on leadership PAC - https://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cycle=2014&cmte=C00517235
National Institute on Money in State Politics (Follow the Money)	Searched Ben Ray Luján on Follow the Money
NM Secretary of State Business Search	UCC Filings Search on Luján, B&B Construction, Ben's Barber Shop https://portal.sos.state.nm.us/BFS/online/Uccsearch
NM Courts	Searched "Luján Ben" & "Luján Ben R" https://caselookup.nmcourts.gov/caselookup/app?component=dl0&page=SearchDetail&service=direct&session=T
DC Courts	Searched B Luján
DC Office of Tax & Revenue – Recorder of Deeds	Searched Luján - https://portal3.recordfusion.com/countyweb/disclaimer.do
Personal Financial Disclosures – House of Representatives	Reviewed Luján PFDs from 2008-2014. Additional analysis possible.
Legislative Record/GovTrack	Reviewed missed votes record and passed legislation.

Collection Notes – New Mexico

NOTE: Χοπιεσ οφ ρεχορδσ ρεθυεστ λεττερσ σεντ υνδερ Νεω Μεξιχο Ινσπεχτιον οφ Πυβλιχ Ρεχορδσ Αχτ χαν βε φουνδ ιν αππενδιξ.

SOURCE	NOTES (e.g., search term(s), URL, etc.)
NM Public Record Commission	Requested meeting minutes, Luján communications, Luján personnel records, budgets, related items. Received meeting minutes for PRC meetings 2005-2008 and documents authored by Luján.
NM legislative records	Requested information related to health insurance legislation addressed by the PRC. NM Legislative Reference Library and NM Legislative Council Service did not reveal any relevant materials.
NM Department Of Cultural Affairs	Requested meeting minutes related to Luján, Luján communications, Luján personnel records, budgets, related items. Received communications & personnel records, which, while not complete, appear to be all the office had in its possession.
NM State Treasurer's Office	Requested reports & audits written by Luján, meeting minutes related to Luján, Luján communications, Luján personnel records, budgets, related items. Treasurer's office maintains it has no pertinent records – retention policy for office is seven years and Luján's tenure was past retention deadline.

NM Gaming Control Board	Requested personnel/employment records for Luján in addition to any communication from or to Luján.
Land/legal records – Bernalillo, Santa Fe, San Miguel & Sandoval Counties	Requested & reviewed land and legal (criminal/civil) records from various counties.
Santa Fe County Clerk	Requested & received Luján voter registration.

Land Records

The only pertinent land records were those filed with the Clerk in Santa Fe County. While I was unable to obtain a few expected documents, sufficient records did exist to construct a fairly accurate portrayal of the target's real property interests. Inexplicably, one document related to a property in Santa Fe County was obtained from a name search in property records with the Rio Arriba County Clerk. I conducted the search because LexisNexis alternately showed that the property at 20 County Road 84-A existed in both Santa Fe and Rio Arriba Counties.

Legal Records

Χιωιλ:

A large number of civil and criminal cases were identified from a name search for "Lujan Ben" and "Ben Lujan" through the New Mexico Courts Case Lookup here. While it was likely that a majority of the results were not-pertinent and in fact related to other people named Ben Lujan (including the target's father), I traveled to the following courts to view or request files to either obtain documentation of those cases that were pertinent, or to exclude the results as irrelevant to the target:

U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico
New Mexico Court of Appeals
Albuquerque Metropolitan Court
Bernalillo County, Albuquerque District
Rio Arriba County, Tierra Amarilla
Rio Arriba County, Espanola Magistrate
Sandoval County
San Miguel County, Las Vegas District
Santa Fe County
Taos County, Taos Magistrate

The only pertinent files I was able to identify came from U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico, New Mexico Court of Appeals, and Santa Fe County/First Judicial District. It is worth noting that several courts' files were difficult to search and generally poorly organized. In some instances I was unable to view files at all as they were missing or otherwise destroyed.

The case files obtained from Santa Fe County were poorly organized and, in many instances, largely incomplete. I obtained copies of every document from the pertinent case files other than Scheduling Orders, Subpoenas and responses, and Certificates of Filing. Not every case file even included a docket and when dockets were included, frequently documents listed on the docket were missing. In the instance of Murphy v. Fidelity Title, the entire case file was missing but a portion of it, including the jacket, were appended to Coll v. First American Title. The file for Murphy didn't even include the entire complaint from the plaintiffs.

The copies were furnished binder-clipped together in seemingly arbitrary stacks, though I preserved the stacks as they were organized in the electronic scans provided. I titled the scans of the paper documents in a manner that should make them discernable between cases. The clerk informed me that the court likely had additional documentation for some of the files "somewhere in storage" and assured me that she would contact me if any other documents were located. As of this writing, I have had no additional communication with the clerk. Some useful notes on the methodology in the court search may be missing from this documentation. While I undertook best efforts to document my interactions with the clerks immediately after leaving the records office, I was not permitted to document anything while inspecting records, either electronically or in writing.

Χριμιναλ:

No pertinent criminal records were found through the New Mexico Courts Case Lookup here. Additionally, due to a low level of confidence in the accuracy of New Mexico court records, I ran a criminal case search in every county that I otherwise visited. No pertinent records were found through additional criminal case searches in the following County and District Courts:

Albuquerque Metropolitan Court
Bernalillo County, Albuquerque District
Rio Arriba County, Tierra Amarilla
Rio Arriba County, Espanola Magistrate
Sandoval County
San Miguel County, Las Vegas District
Santa Fe County
Taos County, Taos Magistrate

Voter Registration

I requested and received verification of the target's voter registration in the form of the target's application from the Santa Fe County Clerk. It's detailed below.

Records Request Notes

The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission Gave Themselves Until September To Respond To Records Requests. In a letter, dated August 6, 2015 responding to an Inspection of Public Records Act request, Melanie Sandoval, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission "Acting Custodian of Records" wrote, "The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission ("PRC") believes that your IPRA request is excessively burdensome and our staff is presently unable to respond to the IPRA request by the given timeframe of August 7, 2015…" And, "The PRC estimates that our office will respond in the next thirty days." [Letter from Melanie Sandoval, NM Public Regulation Commission, 08/06/15]

The New Mexico State Treasurer's Office Claimed They Have No Records Pertaining To Ben Ray Lujan's Time With The Agency. In an email dated August 3, 2015, Cassandra Nicasio, Custodian of Records for the New Mexico State Treasurer's office wrote, "After further researching into your IPRA request, the retention for Records and Archives is 7 years for documents . Any request before 2008 would have been destroyed. Our office would no longer have these documents that you are requesting. From my understanding Ben Ray Lujan was not employed at The State Treasurers Office after 2003." [Email from Cassandra Nicasio, NM State Treasurer's Office, 08/03/15]

The Las Vegas Optic Requested Records Likely Designed To Assess Lujan's Qualifications For His DCA Job In 2007. In a December10, 2007 email from "David Giuliani Managing Editor" of the Las Vegas Optic to "Doug Svetnicka Communications Director New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs" Giuliani wrote, "We would like a copy of a resume that Ben Ray Lujan submitted in connection with his position as administrative services director and chief financial officer. In addition, we would like to see the job advertisement or posting, internal and/or external; the requirements for the position; the job description; a document indicating his pay; and the resumes for the other finalists for the position. Additionally, we would like to see the resume for the current holder of the position." [Email from David Giuliani, 12/10/07]

> ***NOTE**: The response to my records request did not include any additional correspondence or response to this request.*

The Santa Fe New Mexican Requested Personnel Records From Several DCA Employees In 2004. In a June 2, 2004 email from "Anne Constable, Assistant City Editor" of the Santa Fe New Mexican to "Stuart Ashman Department of Cultural Affairs" Constable wrote, "I write to request access to and a copy of resumes for the following exempt employees at the Department of Cultural Affairs: Claudia Correra, Wil Casias-Schofield, Ona Flynn, Bergit Salazar, Eliza Smith Wells and Ben Ray Lujan." [Email from Anne Constable, 06/02/04]

The DCA Responded To Constable's Request By Noting They Did Not Have A Resume For Lujan. In a June 29, 2004 email from "Doug Svetnicka Records Custodian" to "Anne Constable Santa Fe New Mexican" Svetnicka wrote, "The Department of Cultural Affairs does not have in its possession the following records requested in your letter: resumes for Ona Flynn, Ben Ray Lujan and Wilma Casias-Schofield." [Email from Doug Svetnicka, 06/29/04]

The NM Department Of Cultural Affairs Delivered Hundreds Of Pages Of Budget Documents, All Of Which Predate Lujan's Tenure. Presumably in response to the request which read "Any documentation of proposed or enacted budgets of the Department of Cultural Affairs, in any and all of their operations, during the calendar years 2003 and 2004" in an Inspection of Public Records Act request [detailed in Methodology above], the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs delivered electronically 578 total pages, across 18 documents, many of which were duplicative, all with the distinction "OPERATING BUDGET FY 2013 NM DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS" in their file name. The documents are all dated to calendar year 2002 and pertain to the fiscal year 2003 budget preparation process. [See Disk 3 of the "Cultural Affairs Response" file]

> **Lujan Began Work At The NM Department Of Cultural Affairs In January 2003.** According to a letter from the Secretary of Cultural Affairs, to Ben Ray Lujan, dated January 10, 2003, "This correspondence confirms your appointment as OCA's Administrative Services Division Director." A document entitled "Personnel Action Form" noted that Lujan's "Agency Hire Date" was "01/04/2003" and that the "Action" described in the form was a "Job Assignment Change." [Letter from Ruben A. Smith, 01/10/03; Personnel Action Form, 07/03/04]

Next Steps

Remaining Items & Paths For Future Research

DATABASE	NOTES (e.g., search term(s), URL, etc.)
NM Public Regulation Commission	Meeting minutes & documents authored by Luján were received & archived but are voluminous and have not been reviewed.
Legislative Record	Additional work could be done on cosponsored legislation, committee vote record, personal explanations for missed votes and bipartisanship/ideology rankings.
Personal Financial Disclosures – House of Representatives	Reviewed PFDs from 2008-2014. Additional analysis possible. Also may need to review PFDs of any staffers filing in Luján's office.
Google Search	Have not performed targeted Google searches
Social Media	YouTube, Facebook, Twitter & other searches have not yet been done.
Political – Websites	Have not reviewed current or archived campaign websites.

Biography

- **BORN:** Ben Ray Luján, 6/7/1972
- **FAMILY:** Single
- **HOME:** El Rancho, NM
- **EDUCATION:** Attended University of New Mexico (Albuquerque, NM), 1990-1995; B.B.A., New Mexico Highlands University (Las Vegas, NM), 2007
- **PROFESSIONAL:** Director, Administrative Services, New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs; Chief Financial Officer, New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs; Deputy Treasurer, State of New Mexico (2002-2004); dealer and supervisor at Pojoaque Pueblo's Cities of Gold Casino (mid-1993-1995); dealer at Harvey's Hotel & Casino near Lake Tahoe, NV (1995-1997); human-resources manager at The Downs at Albuquerque; marketing director of New Mexico Legislative Reports (1999 to 2000)
- **POLITICAL:** Representative, United States House, 2009-present; Chair, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, 2005-2007; Member, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, 2004-2008
- **COMMITTEES:** Energy and Commerce Committee – Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, Subcommittee on Health
- **ORGANIZATIONS:** Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Native American Caucus, Natural Gas Caucus. Technology Transfer Caucus (co-founder)

Personal Finance

Luján has an estimated net worth of at least $146,005. According to Luján's federal financial disclosures, his assets totaled between $146,005 and $415,000 in 2014 with no liabilities.

Financial Records

2014 PFD Showed Luján With Net Worth Between $146,005 And $415,000. According to Luján's 2014 personal financial disclosure, he had a total net worth of between $146,005 and $415,000. He reported no liabilities and five assets, including a Congressional Federal Credit Union account, his El Rancho home, his New Mexico public employees' pension and Wells Fargo checking and savings accounts. [House Financial Disclosure – Ben Ray Luján, 2014]

In 2011, Luján Had Fewer Financial Assets Than When He Entered Congress – Estimated Net Worth Between $50,001-$234,999. "Meanwhile, U.S. Rep Ben Ray Luján, D-Santa Fe, actually has fewer financial assets than he did when he entered Congress in 2007 and has a long way to go before he could ever hope to join the congressional 'millionaire club.' . . . When he first came to Congress in 2007, Luján's net worth was between $50,001 and $234,999. But according to his 2010 report, his net worth is at least $16,000 but no more than $65,000. The major factor in this decline is that in his 2007 report, Luján reported real estate in El Rancho valued at $100,001 to $250,000. However, he quit listing that property as an asset in subsequent reports. Lujan's only assets listed are his New Mexico Public Employees' Retirement Association account and a checking account at Wells Fargo bank." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 12/31/11]

Personal Finances: 2014	
Net Worth	$146,005 to $415,000
Rank	324
Agreements for Future Employment:	1
Compensation:	0
Gifts Received:	0 totaling $0
Payments to Charitable Organizations in lieu of Honoraria:	0 totaling $0
Earned and Non-Investment Income:	0 totaling $0
Liabilities	0 totaling $0 to $0
Positions Held Outside U.S. Government:	1
Financial Transactions	0 totaling $0 to $0
Trip Reimbursements	0

[OpenSecrets, accessed 12/7/15]

Earned Income

Year	Source	Type	Amount
2008	State of New Mexico	Salary PRC Commissioner	$88,123.36

[House Financial Disclosures – Ben Ray Luján, 2008-2013]

Assets & Unearned Income

Yea	Asset	Min	Max	Type of	Min	Max

r		Value	Value	Income	Income	Income
2014	Congressional Federal Credit Union	$1,001	$15,000	None	None	
2014	El Rancho Home (NM)	$100,001	$250,000	None	None	
2014	NM Public Employees Pension	$15,001	$50,000	Interest	$1,001	$2,500
2014	Wells Fargo Checking	$15,001	$50,000	None	None	
2014	Wells Fargo Savings	$15,001	$50,000	None	None	
2013	Congressional Federal Credit Union	$1,001	$15,000	None	None	
2013	El Rancho Home (NM)	$100,001	$250,000	None	None	
2013	NM Public Employees Pension	$15,001	$50,000	Interest	$1,001	$2,500
2013	Wells Fargo Checking	$15,001	$50,000	None	None	
2013	Wells Fargo Savings	$15,001	$50,000	None	None	
2012	Congressional Federal Credit Union	$1,001	$15,000	None	None	
2012	El Rancho Home (NM)	$100,001	$250,000	None	None	
2012	NM Public Employees Pension	$15,001	$50,000	Interest	$1,001	$2,500
2012	Wells Fargo Checking	$15,001	$50,000	None	None	
2012	Wells Fargo Savings	$15,001	$50,000	None	None	
2011	El Rancho Home (NM)	$100,001	$250,000	None	None	
2011	NM Public Employees Pension	$15,001	$50,000	Interest	$1,001	$2,500
2011	Wells Fargo Checking	$15,001	$50,000	None	None	
2010	NM Public Employees Pension	$15,001	$50,000	None	None	
2010	Wells Fargo Checking	$1,001	$15,000	Interest	$1	$200
2009	NM Public Employees Pension	$15,001	$50,000	None		
2009	Wells Fargo Checking	$1,001	$15,000	None		
2008	NM Public Employees Pension	$15,001	$50,000	None		
2008	Wells Fargo Checking	$1,001	$15,000	None		
TOTAL					**$3,004**	**$7,700**

[House Financial Disclosures – Ben Ray Luján, 2008-2013]

Liabilities

Year	Creditor	Date Liability Incurred	Type of Liability	Min Amount of Liability	Max Amount of Liability
2012	Valley National Bank of Espanola, NM	May-08	Mortgage on El Rancho Home - Loan to the Campaign	$50,001	$100,000
2011	Valley National Bank of Espanola, NM	May-08	Mortgage on El Rancho Home - Loan to the Campaign	$50,001	$100,000

[House Financial Disclosures – Ben Ray Luján, 2008-2013]

Positions

Year	Position	Name of Organization	Notes
2014	Board Member	Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute	
2013	Board Member	Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute	
2012	Board Member	Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute	
2011	Board Member	Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute	amended to add in May 2012
2010	Board Member	Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute	amended to add in May 2012
2009	Board Member	Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute	amended to add in May 2012

[House Financial Disclosures – Ben Ray Luján, 2008-2013]

Agreements

Year	Date	Parties To	Terms of Agreement
2014	12/31/2007	Ben Luján and NM Public Employees Pension Plan	NM Public Employees Pension Plan - Benefit plan maintained by State of NM
2012	12/31/2007	Ben Luján and NM Public Employees Pension Plan	NM Public Employees Pension Plan - Benefit plan maintained by State of NM
2011	12/31/2007	Ben Luján and NM Public Employees Pension Plan	NM Public Employees Pension Plan - Benefit plan maintained by State of NM

[House Financial Disclosures – Ben Ray Luján, 2008-2013]

Political Donations

According to the National Institute on Money in State Politics, Luján has given $21,216 to state-level candidates.
NOTE: Additional research needed. Many of these contributions are likely attributable to Ben Luján Sr.

Recipient	Office	Result	Party	Date	Amount
Stefanics, Elizabeth T	Senate	Won	Democrat	Unknown - 1992	$50

Park, Al	House	Won	Democrat	10/24/2000	$150
Rodella, Debbie A	House	Won	Democrat	10/25/2000	$150
Urioste, Mario	House	Won	Democrat	10/20/2000	$150
Miera, Rick	House	Won	Democrat	10/20/2000	$100
Regensberg, Bengie	House	Won	Democrat	10/17/2000	$100
Rios, Benjamin B	House	Won	Democrat	10/25/2002	$100
Saavedra, Henry (Kiki)	House	Won	Democrat	10/30/2000	$100
Montano, Salomon	House	Lost - General Election	Democrat	10/2/2002	$200
Urioste, Mario	House	Won	Democrat	9/28/1998	$800
Long, Charles	House	Lost - Primary Election	Democrat	5/7/2012	$1,500
Long, Charles	House	Lost - Primary Election	Democrat	6/1/2012	$800
Begaye, Ray	House	Lost - General Election	Democrat	9/20/2012	$1,000
Begaye, Ray	House	Lost - General Election	Democrat	11/2/2012	$500
Cote, Nathan	House	Won	Democrat	9/17/2012	$1,500
Dodge Jr, George	House	Won	Democrat	8/9/2012	$1,000
Dodge Jr, George	House	Won	Democrat	9/10/2012	$500
Oneill, Bill B	Senate	Won	Democrat	8/16/2011	$1,000
Richard, Stephanie Garcia	House	Won	Democrat	9/16/2012	$1,000
Ferrary, Joanne J	House	Won	Democrat	9/15/2012	$500
Garcia, Mary Jane	Senate	Lost - General Election	Democrat	10/22/2012	$500
Lundstrom, Patricia A (Patty)	House	Won	Democrat	6/24/2011	$500
Chavez, Ernest	House	Won	Democrat	5/9/2012	$300
Rodella, Debbie A	House	Won	Democrat	5/12/1998	$150
Silva, Daniel P	House	Won	Democrat	5/12/1998	$100
Luján, Ben	Public Regulation Commission	Not Up For Election	Democrat	5/1/2006	$487
Barreras, Andrew J	House	Won	Democrat	10/14/2008	$1,000
Barreras, Andrew J	House	Won	Democrat	3/16/2008	$500
Lundstrom, Patricia A	House	Won	Democrat	5/22/2008	$1,000
Lundstrom, Patricia A	House	Won	Democrat	2/21/2007	$130

Barela, Elias	House	Won	Democrat	9/29/2008	$1,000
Nunez, Andrew	House	Won	Democrat	5/19/2008	$500
Nunez, Andrew	House	Won	Democrat	10/2/2008	$300
Begaye, Ray	House	Won	Democrat	5/20/2008	$200
Begaye, Ray	House	Won	Democrat	10/16/2008	$200
Begaye, Ray	House	Won	Democrat	5/20/2008	$200
Gonzales, Roberto J (Bobby)	House	Won	Democrat	2/1/2007	$534
Campos Ii, Jose A	House	Won	Democrat	10/13/2008	$500
Cote, Nathan P	House	Won	Democrat	5/17/2008	$500
Chasey, Gail	House	Won	Democrat	5/9/2007	$430
Madalena, James Roger	House	Won	Democrat	10/3/2008	$200
Madalena, James Roger	House	Won	Democrat	5/15/2008	$200
Campos, Pete	Senate	Won	Democrat	8/2/2008	$100
Marks, Jason A	Public Regulation Commission	Won	Democrat	10/10/2007	$100
Denish, Diane D	Governor / Lieutenant Governor	Not Up For Election	Democrat	11/5/2007	$50
Vigil, Robert E	Treasurer	Won	Democrat	5/20/2002	$200
Catechis, Christopher Spyros	House	Lost - General Election	Democrat	7/28/2002	$135
Total					**$21,216**

[National Institute on Money in State Politics, accessed 2/26/15]

According to CQ Moneyline, Luján has given $1,782 to federal political candidates.

Date	**Candidate/Committee**	**Party**	**Amount**
11/4/2008	Obama For America (Presidential)	11/4/2008	$250
10/22/2008	Harry Teague For Congress (NM/02)	10/22/2008	$250
10/22/2008	Harry Teague For Congress (NM/02)	10/22/2008	$250
10/7/2008	Friends Of Barbara Boxer (CA/Senate)	10/7/2008	$250
9/21/2006	Madrid For Congress (NM/01)	9/21/2006	$300
10/10/2008	Udall For US All (NM/Senate)	10/10/2008	$200
8/29/2012	People For Ben (NM/03)	8/29/2012	$282
Total			**$1,782**

[CQ Political Moneyline, accessed 2/26/15]

Personal Information

Voter Registration

Ben Ray Lujan Has Been Registered To Vote At 5 Entrada Celedon Y Nestora, Santa Fe, NM Since February 2004. According to a voter registration application acquired from the Santa Fe County Clerk, Ben Ray Lujan, born 1972, was registered to vote in the county on February 7, 2004. He registered as a Democrat and listed "05 Entrada Celedon y Nestora, Santa Fe, 87506" as the address on both the lines that requested "Address Where You Live Now" and "Address Where You Get Your Mail" when submitting the application. [Santa Fe County Voter Registration #1277648]

Property

As of February 2015, the following is a list of potential properties where Luján may have lived:

Address	Date Range
PO Box 102 Santa Fe, NM 87504-0102 Santa Fe County	2/1999 - 3/2002
RR 1 Box 102 Santa Fe, NM 87506-9743 Santa Fe County	7/1997 - 6/2001
500 W College Pkwy Apt 133 Carson City, NV 89706-1970 Carson City County	5/1997 - 5/1997
PO Box 4356 Stateline, NV 89449-4356 Douglas County	9/1996 - 9/1996
102 Rt 1 Box Santa Fe, NM 87504 Santa Fe County	12/1995 - 12/1995
102 Rr 1 Santa Fe, NM 87506 Santa Fe County	Unknown

[Nexis Comprehensive Person Report, accessed 2/26/15]

ACCOUNT 33636500
NAME: LUJAN, BEN RAY
ADDRESS: 5 ENTRADA CELEDON Y NESTORA
SANTA FE , NM 875069740
PROPERTY USE: SRES
TAX DISTRICT: 1

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 20 COUNTY RD 84A , PARCEL A T19N R 8E S10 , 1.638 AC ,
DEED BOOK and PAGE: 1524070
MAP CODE: 1-046-113-293-195 FILL1
Assessment Information

2014 Land and Improvement Values		
Land Value	$49306	
Improvements	$104293	
Personal Property	$0	
Alternate Value	$0	
Livestock Value	$0	
Exemptions	$0	
Total Full Value	**$153598.98**	
Total Taxable Value	**$51199.66**	* net value/3

[Santa Fe County Assessor search, accessed 3/24/15]

There are no records of DC property held by Luján.

NOTE: Further research necessary into Luján's property ownership history. Nexis person search has not provided clarity on Luján's current or more recent properties and there is overlap with his father, Ben Luján Sr.

20 County Road 84-A

Ben Ray Lujan Was Deeded 50% Of The Property At 20 County Road 84-A In December 2007. According to warranty deeds recorded with the Santa Fe County Clerk, on December 10, 2007, Ben Ray Lujan was deeded "an undivided 50% in said property" of the property with the following legal description: "Parcel A, as shown on 'Boundary Survey Requested by Valley National Bank Lying and Being Situate Within Exception 227, Private Claim 92, Parcel 1; Exception 267, Private Claim 117, Parcel 2; and Exception 172, Private Claim 62, Parcel of the San Ildefonso Pueblo Grant, in Section 10, Township 19 North, Range 8 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, in the Vicinity of El Rancho, County of Santa Fe, State of New Mexico' which was filed in the Office of the County Clerk, Santa Fe County, New Mexico on December 8, 1999 in Plat Book 430, page 20 as Document No. 1099, 391." The warranty deed for the property was dated and notarized September 20, 2007. It was noted "RECORDED 12/10/2007." [Santa Fe County Clerk, Doc. No. 1509002]

Ben Ray Lujan Was Deeded The Property At 20 County Road 84-A In April 2008. According to a warranty deed recorded with the Santa Fe County Clerk, on April 30, 2008, Ben Ray Lujan was deeded the property with the following legal description: "Parcel A, as shown on 'Boundary Survey Requested by Valley National Bank Lying and Being Situate Within Exception 227, Private Claim 92, Parcel 1; Exception 267, Private Claim 117, Parcel 2; and Exception 172, Private Claim 62, Parcel of the San Ildefonso Pueblo Grant, in

Section 10, Township 19 North, Range 8 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, in the Vicinity of El Rancho, County of Santa Fe, State of New Mexico' which was filed in the Office of the County Clerk, Santa Fe County, New Mexico on December 8, 1999 in Plat Book 430, page 20 as Document No. 1099, 391." The warranty deed was dated and notarized on December 18, 2007 and noted "RECORDED 04/30/2008." [Santa Fe County Clerk, Doc. No. 1524070]

***NOTE**: Both documents appeared in the list of results for an address search of "20 County Road 84-A" in the Santa Fe County Clerk's office. Document number 1524070 was retrieved as an electronic image from the county's property system. No image of document number 1509002 existed in the Santa Fe County recorder's office, as an electronic image. The office did not have immediate access to originals or microfiche archives of the document. The document provided here was obtained from a name search for "Ben Ray Lujan" in Rio Arriba County, notwithstanding the document's obvious origination in Santa Fe County.*

Lujan Mortgaged The Property At 20 County Road 84-A In May 2008. According to records from the Santa Fe County Clerk, Ben Ray Lujan mortgaged the property at 20 County Road 84-A, El Rancho, NM 87506 in a document dated May 16, 2008 and recorded June 11, 2008. The mortgage from Valley National Bank "in the original principal amount of $150,000" also included a "Maximum Lien" clause, which read "The lien of this Mortgage shall not exceed at any one time $300,000.00." The mortgage also included a "cross collateralization" clause that allowed Lujan to use the property to secure other obligations to the lender. The mortgage was satisfied and released on January 5, 2012. [Santa Fe County Clerk, Doc. Nos. 1528636, 1659147]

***NOTE**: It is likely that the discrepancies between the "Maximum Lien" and the "original principal amount" in the mortgage, as well as the "cross collateralization clause" in the mortgage are the result of refinancing debt secured by the previous "undivided 50%" interest in the property. Though, a name and grantor/grantee search did not yield documentation of the previous debt.*

The Santa Fe County Assessor Shows Two Different Taxpayers For Property At 20 County Road 84A. A GIS search in Santa Fe County for "Property Address: 20 County Road 84A" shows that "Owner Name: Lujan, Ben Ray" is the taxpayer of record for the property at that address with "Legal Description: PARCEL A T19N R 8E S10 1.638 AC" and "Owner Name: UNDERGROUND SUPPORT ASSISST" is the taxpayer of record for the property at that address with "Legal Description: T19N R 8E S10 .64 AC. TR-A." GIS maps reveal that the properties are adjacent but distinct. [Santa Fe County Assessor: Parcel Map Property Search, accessed 07/22/15]

5 Entrada Celedon y Nestora

The Santa Fe County Assessor Shows A "Lujan, Ben" Was The Owner Of The Property At 5 Celedon Y Nestora As Of July 2015. A GIS search in Santa Fe County for "Property Address: 20 County Road 84A" shows that "Owner Name: Lujan, Ben" is the taxpayer of record for the property at that address. [Santa Fe County Assessor: Parcel Map Property Search, Parcel No. 33650816, accessed 07/22/15]

***NOTE**: It is unclear whether or not Ben Ray Lujan is the "Lujan, Ben" that owns the property at 5 Entrada Celedon y Nestora or if it is an artifact of his father's ownership of the property with his mother. Ben Ray Lujan is registered to vote from the address and it is listed as his residence on documents associated with other real property in the county.*

A name and grantor/grantee search did not yield a deed or any other record that definitively established ownership of the property. A search at the clerk's office suggested that documents related to the property were contained in plat books that were not on site. As of this writing, I am still waiting for a response from the clerk's office to a request made for a deed that predates Ben Ray Lujan's 18th birthday to ensure that he is not the owner of the property. No deed could be found that gave him ownership of the property post-dating his 18th birthday. The records request of the clerk's office may never yield results, as it appeared that the legal description used to search the analog records could not be sufficiently disambiguated from other adjacent or similarly titled real property.

Criminal & Traffic Violation Record

As of December 2015, Luján is associated with two criminal or traffic violations. [Nexis Criminal Records search, accessed 12/7/15]

Date	Case Type	Jurisdiction	Disposition	Source
3/8/05	Veh Insured/Owner Must Have Evid Of Financial Resp	Santa Fe Magistrate	Dismissed – Proof Shown	Nexis
3/6/03	Speeding – Petite Misdemeanor	Santa Fe Magistrate	No Contest	Nexis

[Nexis Criminal Records search, accessed 12/7/15]

NOTE: Further research may be necessary to determine whether Luján has any additional criminal or traffic violations, but I was able to rule out any pertinent criminal records for the following counties: Bernalillo, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Taos. New Mexico online court records do not provide additional details on the above cases. Online search shows numerous other records for Ben Luján – further research needed to determine if those cases are tied to Ben Ray Luján, his father or someone else.

Civil – Bankruptcy, Judgments & Liens

As of December 2015, Luján is not associated with any bankruptcy, judgments, or liens. [New Mexico Courts Case Lookup, accessed 12/7/15]

Date	Case Type	Case Name	Jurisdiction	Disposition	Notes
3/29/06	Civil Complaint	Max W. Coll v. First American	Santa Fe District	Open complaint.	One of 9 defendants in litigation with NM PRC. No activity since 2012.
4/27/06	Civil Complaint	Murphy v. Fidelity National	Santa Fe District	Open complaint.	One of 18 defendants in litigation with NM PRC. No activity since 2011.
6/29/06	Civil Complaint	Arens v. Rushton	Santa Fe District	Dismissed for lack of prosecution.	One of 7 defendants in litigation.
7/14/06	Civil Complaint	City of Santa Fe v. Santa Fe	Santa Fe District	Stipulated Dismissal	One of 19 defendants in litigation with City of Santa Fe
8/17/07	Civil Complaint	Richard Arens v.	Santa Fe District	Dismissed for lack	One of 9 defendants in litigation.

		Morris Chavez		of prosecution.	

NOTE: Further research necessary into whether Luján or Luján's associated entities had bankruptcies, judgments or liens – there is at least one lien against a Ben Luján in New Mexico in the 1990s, though it appears to be related to a construction company and is likely related to Luján's father.

Ben Ray Lujan was named as a defendant in the following civil cases in Santa Fe District Court:

Case Number	Party Name	Case Title	Filing Date	Court
D-101-CV-200600689	LUJAN BEN R	MAX W COLL VS FIRST AMERICAN	3/29/06	State Circuit
D-101-CV-200600928	LUJAN BEN R	MURPHY V FIDELITY NATIONAL	4/27/06	State Circuit
D-101-CV-200601417	LUJAN BEN R	ARENS VS RUSHTON	6/29/06	State Circuit
D-101-CV-200702034	LUJAN BEN R	RICHARD ARENS V MORRIS CHAVEZ	8/17/07	State Circuit
D-101-CV-200601555	LUJAN BEN RAY	CITY OF SANTA FE V SANTA FE	7/14/06	State Circuit
1:06-cv-00348-WFD-DJS	LUJAN BEN R	MAX W COLL VS FIRST AMERICAN & MURPHY V FIDELITY NATIONAL	4/27/06	U.S. District

Max Coll v. First American Title – Circuit Court

Ben Ray Lujan Was Named As A Defendant In Max W Coll V First American Title Et Al. In their "Class Action Complaint for Injunction, Damages, Declaratory And Other Relief" filed March 9, 2006 in New Mexico's First Judicial District Court, plaintiffs "Max W. Coll II and Catherine Joyce-Coll" named "First American Title Company, and its affiliates and its agents in New Mexico; New Mexico Public Regulatory Commission; Jason Marks, David W. King, Ben R. Lujan, Lynda M. Lovejoy, and Shirley Baca, Commissioners of the Public Regulatory Commission; New Mexico Department of Insurance; and Eric Serna, Superintendent of Insurance" as defendants. [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200600689, Complaint, 03/29/06]

Defendants Alleged That Lujan And The PRC Were Complicit In Price Fixing For Title Insurance. In their complaint the defendants alleged, "By Fixing Prices, Defendants have forced Plaintiffs and other consumers to pay excessive prices for title insurance that provides very little coverage." And, "Plaintiffs were forced to pay excessive and unreasonable prices for their title insurance because defendants engaged in anti-competitive price fixing…" [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200600689, Complaint, 03/29/06]

Defendants Alleged That Lujan And The PRC Were Complicit In Title Insurance Companies' Violation Of Anti-Monopoly Provisions In The NM Constitution. In their complaint the defendants alleged, "Plaintiffs were forced to pay excessive and unreasonable prices for their title insurance because defendants engaged in anti-competitive price fixing, which is a combination in restraint of trade contrary to the anti-monopoly provisions of the New Mexico Constitution." And, "all of the title insurers in

New Mexico charge exactly the same price for title insurance and related services." And, "All of the title insurers in New Mexico issue the same policy forms, with no significant variations in the risks insured and the risks excluded from coverage." [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200600689, Complaint, 03/29/06]

Defendants Alleged That Lujan And The PRC Acted Unconstitutionally In Fixing The Rates Charged By Title Insurance Companies. In their complaint the defendants alleged, "§ 59A-30-6 is invalid insofar as it requires, or is interpreted by defendants to require, the Insurance Department and the PRC to fix the same rate to be charged by all title insurers, thus creating a horizontal price fixing scheme or combination in restraint of trade." [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200600689, Complaint, 03/29/06]

Coll V. First American Title Was Removed From NM District Court To Federal Court In April 2006. In April 2006, attorneys for First American Title Insurance Company filed a notice of removal to federal court. The removal notice moved Coll v. First American Title Company et al. to United States District Court for the District of New Mexico until such time as the federal court chose to remand it to state court. [U.S. District Court Case 1:06-cv-00348-WFD-DJS, Notice of Removal, 04/27/06]

New Mexico Circuit Court Issued An Order Of Administrative Closure For The Case. In a November 23, 2010 Order of Administrative Closure the New Mexico First Judicial District Court Judge wrote, "This matter having come before the Court on administrative review of pending files pursuant to Rule 1-041(E)(2); and the Court having reviewed the file and having determined that there are no pending matters in this case which require that the case remain open for administrative purposes, it is therefore ordered that this case shall be closed for administrative purposes." [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200600689, Order of Administrative Closure, 11/23/10]

While The Case Was In Federal Court, The Coll Plaintiffs Applied For Reinstatement To NM Circuit Court. In a Motion for Reinstatement the plaintiffs "Max W. Coll II and Catherine Joyce-Coll" wrote, "The Plaintiffs have received a notice of closure in this case. The notice of closure should be rescinded, and this case should remain open, pending developments in the federal courts." [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200600689, Plaintiff's Motion For Reinstatement, 12/30/10]

***NOTE**: A brief web search suggests that the reinstatement was never granted, but the order did not appear in the case files accessed from the New Mexico First Judicial District Court.*

Murphy V. Fidelity Title Et Al.

Ben Ray Lujan Was Named As A Defendant In Charles T. Murphy V. Fidelity National Title Insurance Et Al. In their "Class Action Complaint for Injunction, Damages, Declaratory And Other Relief" filed April 27, 2006 in New Mexico's First Judicial District Court, plaintiffs "Charles T. Murphy and Barbara E. Murphy" amongst others, named several title insurance companies and "New Mexico Public Regulatory Commission; Jason Marks, David W. King, Ben R. Lujan, Lynda M. Lovejoy, and E. Shirley Baca, Commissioners of the Public Regulation Commission; New Mexico Department of Insurance; and Eric Serna, Superintendent of Insurance" as defendants. [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-2006-928, Complaint, 04/27/06]

Murphy V. Fidelity Title Insurance Was Consolidated With Coll V. First American Title In Federal Court. According to the opinion issued by the United States Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals in Coll et al. v. First American Title Insurance Company et al., "This federal litigation represents the consolidation of two putative class actions begun in New Mexico state court, Coll v. First American Title Insurance Co., and Murphy v. Fidelity National Title Insurance Co." [Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals, Case No. 08-2174, Document: 01018629229]

Max Coll V. First American Title Et Al. & Murphy V. Fidelity Title Et Al. – Federal

Coll V. First American Title Was Removed From NM District Court To Federal Court In April 2006. In April 2006, attorneys for First American Title Insurance Company filed a notice of removal to federal court. The removal notice moved Coll v. First American Title Company et al. to United States District Court for the District of New Mexico until such time as the federal court chose to remand it to state court. [U.S. District Court Case 1:06-cv-00348-WFD-DJS, Notice of Removal, 04/27/06]

Murphy V. Fidelity Title Insurance Was Consolidated With Coll V. First American Title In Federal Court. According to the opinion issued by the United States Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals in Coll et al. v. First American Title Insurance Company et al., "This federal litigation represents the consolidation of two putative class actions begun in New Mexico state court, Coll v. First American Title Insurance Co., and Murphy v. Fidelity National Title Insurance Co." [Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals, Case No. 08-2174, Document: 01018629229]

The Federal Circuit Court Dismissed Coll's Claims Against The Title Insurance Defendants. In an order filed April 18, 2008, a U.S. District Judge for the New Mexico district wrote, "Defendant First American Title Insurance Company's motion to dismiss (CIV 06-348 Docket No. 6) is GRANTED. Plaintiffs' claims against First American Title Insurance Company are dismissed with prejudice." [U.S. District Court Case 1:06-cv-00348-WFD-DJS, Order, 04/18/08]

The Federal Court Remanded Coll's Claims Against The State Defendants, Including Lujan, Back To New Mexico Circuit Court. In an order filed April 18, 2008, a U.S. District Judge for the New Mexico district wrote, "The Court takes no action with respect to State Defendants' Motion to Dismiss (CIV 06-348 – Docket No. 17). Plaintiffs' claims against State Defendants are remanded to the First Judicial District for County of Santa Fe, New Mexico for all further proceedings." [U.S. District Court Case 1:06-cv-00348-WFD-DJS, Order, 04/18/08]

Federal Appeals Court Affirmed The Decision To Dismiss Claims Against The Insurer Defendants. According to the opinion issued by the United States Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals in Coll et al. v. First American Title Insurance Company et al., "We AFFIRM the district court's decision to dismiss Plaintiffs' claims asserted against the Insurer Defendants, but we REMAND Plaintiffs' state constitutional claims asserted against those Defendants to the district court with directions to dismiss those claims without prejudice for lack of standing." [Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals, Case No. 08-2174, Document: 01018629229]

Arens v. Rushton and Chavez

Ben R. Lujan Was Named As A Defendant In Arens V. Rushton. In their "Class Action Complaint for Injunction, Damages, Declaratory And Other Relief" filed June 29, 2006 in New Mexico's First Judicial District Court, plaintiffs "Richard R Arens and Patricia

L Arens" named "Thomas R. Rushton, Acting Superintendent of the Insurance Division of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission; Eric Serna, former Superintendent of Insurance; Jason Marks, David W. King, Ben R. Lujan, Lynda M. Lovejoy, and E. Shirley Baca, Commssioners of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission" as defendants. [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200601417, Complaint, 06/29/06]

Plaintiffs Accused Lujan And Other Defendants Of Complicity In A Price-Fixing Scheme For Title Insurance. In their "Class Action Complaint for Injunction, Damages, Declaratory And Other Relief" filed June 29, 2006 in New Mexico's First Judicial District Court, plaintiffs "Richard R Arens and Patricia L Arens" stated "The regulators have caused and allowed all title insurers to engage in horizontal price fixing, which is a combination in restraint of trade contrary to the New Mexico Constitution." [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200601417, Complaint, 06/29/06]

Plaintiffs Accused Defendant Eric Serna Of Taking Contributions From Regulated Industries, In Violation Of State Law. In their "Class Action Complaint for Injunction, Damages, Declaratory And Other Relief" filed June 29, 2006 in New Mexico's First Judicial District Court, plaintiffs "Richard R Arens and Patricia L Arens" stated "Defendant Eric Serna has conspired with title companies to evade or violate NMSA 1978, § 1-19-34.2, which prohibits contributions from regulated industries. They have conspired together by using Con Alma Health Foundation, Inc., a purported private foundation. Until he was recently forced by the Public Regulation Commission to resign from Con Alma, defendant Serna effectively directed and controlled Con Alma. Defendant Serna or his agents solicited contributions for Con Alma from entities or person regulated by the Insurance Division, including the title companies." [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200601417, Complaint, 06/29/06]

New Mexico Circuit Court Dismissed Eric Serna As A Defendant. In an order filed February 22, 2007 in New Mexico's First Judicial District Court, in Arens v. Rushton, the court stated, "Mr. Serna should be, and is hereby dismissed from this lawsuit as a named party." [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200601417, Order, 07/22/07]

New Mexico Circuit Court Ordered That Title Insurance Companies Be Joined In The Suit Or The Suit Be Dismissed. In an order filed February 22, 2007 in New Mexico's First Judicial District Court, in Arens v. Rushton, the court stated, "The title insurance companies regulated by the Superintendent of Insurance of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission must be joined as parties to this case within fourteen (14) days, or by January 25, 2007; and if not so joined by January 25, 2007, Defendants' Motion to Dismiss I is granted dismissing this case and Plaintiffs' complaint for failure to join such indispensable parties." [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200601417, Order, 07/22/07]

The Suit Was Ordered Closed In 2015 As Attempts To Reinstate The Case Were Denied. In an order filed February 5, 2015in New Mexico's First Judicial District Court, in Arens v. Chavez, the recaptioned case originally filed as Arens v. Rushton the court stated, "There has not been any substantial action in this matter since 2008." And, "The case is and remains closed. The Court denies any objection to the closure and denies the Motion to Reinstate the case. The Court makes no finding on the merits. [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200702034, Order, 02/05/15]

City of Santa Fe v. Santa Fe

An Annexation And Zoning Dispute Suit Named Ben Ray Lujan A Defendant In His Capacity As A Member Of The Santa Fe Extraterritorial Zoning Commission. According to a notice of appeal filed in City of Santa Fe v. Santa Fe, the City of Santa Fe, as the plaintiffs, named as defendants, "Santa Fe Extraterritorial Zoning Authority, and Mike D. Anaya, Virginia Vigil, Paul Campos, Miguel M. Chavez, Carmichael A. Dominguez, members of the Authority; Santa Fe Extraterritorial Zoning Commission, and Nancy R. Long, Cindy Padilla, Mary H. Follingstead, Mike Mier, Patricio Gonzales, Daniel Esquibel, and Ben Ray Lujan, members of the Commission; and Las Soleras LTD, J. Harmon Burttram and Anne Janssen, Faye E. Gardner, and Building Services Co., owners of the proposed development known as the Las Soleras Development." [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200601555, Notice of Appeal, 07/14/06]

***Note**: The court did not have an underlying complaint prior to the Notice of Appeal and a case search shows that the case was filed on the same day as the appeal notice.*

In The Zoning And Annexation Dispute, Las Soleras' Owners Attempted To Negotiate With Both The City And The County For Zoning Changes And Annexation. According to a notice of appeal filed in City of Santa Fe v. Santa Fe, the City of Santa Fe, as the plaintiffs, assert as facts common to all claims, "Las Soleras submitted a master plan to create a Village District to include high to low density residential uses and community facility, civic, and commercial uses/activities around plaza areas on 437 acres. The request also includes variances to the 'Village District Standards' of the EZO…" And, "Las Soleras had previously requested the City to annex this proposed subdivision…" And, "To meet the requirements imposed by the City that Las Soleras have sufficient water rights for the project, Las Soleras proposed to transfer leased water rights to support the development." And, "Las Soleras ceased negotiations with the City and began negotiating with the County." [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200601555, Notice of Appeal, 07/14/06]

The Suit, And Several Related Causes, Were Settled By Agreement Between All Parties. In a document titled "Settlement Agreement And Mutual Release Of Claims" likely originally filed as a settlement agreement in another, related suit, the parties agree "This Settlement Agreement is entered by and between the Governing Body of the City of Santa Fe, New Mexico, a municipal corporation organized and existing under the Laws of the State of New Mexico (hereinafter referred to as "the City"), the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County, a political subdivision of the State of New Mexico (hereinafter referred to as "the County"), the Extraterritorial Zoning Authority and the Extraterritorial Zoning Commission […] and the owners of the land within Area 10, as defined herein, whose signatures are included at the end of this Agreement (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Las Soleras")." [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200601555, Settlement Agreement And Mutual Release Of Claims]

The Settlement Noted That A Dispute Between The City, County, And Developers Resulted In Several Legal Actions. In a document titled "Settlement Agreement And Mutual Release Of Claims" likely originally filed as a settlement agreement in another, related suit, the parties agree "Whereas, a dispute has arisen among the parties hereto over the proposed annexation of the proposed development know as 'Las Soleras' and the dispute resulted in the filing of six lawsuits in the federal and State courts in New Mexico; Whereas, the dispute concerning the annexation of Las Soleras led to differences of opinion between the City and the County over the issue of annexation in general…" [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200601555, Settlement Agreement And Mutual Release Of Claims]

The Settlement Stipulated Dismissal Of All Pending Litigation. In a document titled "Settlement Agreement And Mutual Release Of Claims" likely originally filed as a settlement agreement in another, related suit, the parties agree "Now, Therefore The Parties Hereto Agree As Follows: 1. Stipulated dismissal of all pending litigation. Upon final execution of this Agreement by all parties hereto, the parties shall file a stipulation of dismissal […] Las Soleras Oeste Ltd. Co., Geronimo Partnership, the Crossing LLC, Crowne Santa Fe LLL, Randall Schmille, Tierra de la Amigos LLC, and Burttram Family Investments LLC v. City of Santa Fe […] City of Santa Fe v. Santa Fe Extraterritorial Zoning Authority, Santa Fe Extraterritorial Zoning Commission and Las Soleras Ltd." [New Mexico First Judicial District Court, D-101-CV-200601555, Settlement Agreement And Mutual Release Of Claims]

***NOTE**: The "Settlement Agreement And Mutual Release Of Claims" was the only document scanned and attached electronically to the case heading in the court's records system. When I asked why it wasn't filed as a stipulated settlement the clerk indicated that she didn't know.*

Associated Entities

As of February 2015, Luján is potentially associated with the following entities.

B & B Construction Corp Of Espanola Santa Fe, NM
Ben's Barber Shop PO Box 334 Velarde, NM 87582-0334

[Nexis Comprehensive Person Report, accessed 2/26/15]

NOTE: Further research necessary into Luján's associated entities. Initial searches indicate no hard link to Ben's Barber Shop and that B&B Construction Corp of Espanola was owned by his father, Ben Luján Sr.

Nepotism

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Dating back to his 2004 campaign for PRC, Luján has repeatedly been accused of benefiting from political patronage as a result of Speaker Luján's influence*
- ✓ *Luján and Speaker Luján shared a mailing address at the family compound and Speaker Luján filed Luján's campaign finance report for him in 2004*
- ✓ *In 2008, Speaker Luján reversed his position on a ballot eligibility bill that would help Luján's congressional bid and was accused of working behind the scenes to remove primary opponents from the ballot*
- ✓ *Luján was appointed administrative services director for the Department of Cultural Affairs in 2003 – a position the Cultural Affairs Secretary noted was usually filed by someone with administrative & finance experience*

2004 Campaign

Ben Ray Luján & Speaker Luján Shared Mailing Address With Separate Homes On Family Compound And Speaker Luján Filed Campaign Finance Report For Ben Ray Luján. "Ben Ray Lujan shares a mailing address with his father in Nambé. They live in separate houses at the family compound, said Lujan spokesman Juan Rios. Political funds controlled by Speaker Ben Lujan pumped $1,000 into his son's campaign this month, records on file with the Bureau of Elections show. And the senior Lujan filed his son's campaign-finance report at the Bureau of Elections last week." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 10/20/04]

2008 Campaign

Democratic Primary Opponent Slammed Luján For Nepotism, Missing Commission Meetings & Out-Of-State Travel. "Both Lujá n and Wiviott advertised heavily on broadcast television. In the final weeks, the on-air campaign turned negative. Wiviott mocked Lujá n as a former blackjack dealer whose father got him high-level state jobs. The Wiviott ads attacked Lujá n for missing most meetings of a state commission to which he was appointed and for traveling out-of-state on PRC business." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 6/4/08]

Primary Opponent Ran Ad Attacking Luján For Background As Casino Dealer, Painted Luján As Product Of Political Patronage. "Don Wiviott has put some new

chips on the table in the 3rd Congressional District race, with an advertisement that plays up a key opponent's background as a casino card dealer. Wiviott's salvo against Public Regulation Commissioner Ben Ray Lujan -- the first television attack ad of the campaign -- also attempts to dismiss Lujan as a product of political patronage. . . . The ad begins with a narrator asserting that most New Mexicans work hard 'to make it on their own.' 'Not Ben Ray Lujan Jr.,' the narration continues. 'Lujan was a blackjack dealer in Las Vegas before his famous father got him a state job.' Lujan is the son of New Mexico House Speaker Ben Lujan." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/20/08]

Ballot Eligibility

Primary Opponent Accused Speaker Luján Of Working Behind The Scenes To Mount Legal Challenges To Ballot Eligibility Of Ben Ray Luján's Opponents. "Legal challenges made against two candidates for the District 3 Congressional seat have raised questions about state election laws and charges Rep. Ben Lujan is maneuvering to secure the nomination for his son, Ben Ray Lujan. The lawsuits revolve around the validity of signatures on nominating petitions for Rudy Martín, a Dixon attorney, and Santa Fe builder Don Wiviott. . . . . Martín charged Speaker Lujan is working behind the scenes to keep challengers to his son off the state primary election ballot." [Taos News, 3/6/08]

> **Speaker Luján Denied Involvement In Lawsuits.** "'Why would I want to get him out of the race,' Speaker Lujan said in response to Martín's accusation. 'I had no knowledge about this until I saw it in the paper.' Lujan emphasized that he had no participation in bringing either lawsuit." [Taos News, 3/6/08]
>
> **NM GOP: Speaker Luján Flipped Position On Ballot Access, Announced Support For Restricting Access While Ben Ray Luján Was Running For Congress.** "Today, Democrat House Speaker Ben Lujan told political blogger Heath Haussamen that he will support changes to a law that restricts ballot access in the upcoming legislative session, in favor of allowing candidates who do not get 20% of their party's support at their pre-primary nominating convention to pursue another method of getting on the ballot. Prior to today, Lujan has staunchly opposed changing the measure, with many speculating that his son, Ben Ray Lujan, could benefit from restrictive ballot access laws in his race for the 3rd congressional district. " [NM GOP press release, 1/8/08]

State Jobs

2004 PRC Opponent: Luján Got Multiple State Jobs As A Result Of His Father's Influence. "Speaking of Lujan's recent jobs in state government, Gonzales said it's clear Lujan is over his head and only received the state jobs through family ties. 'His saying that these were not politically motivated, I think it's a failure on his part to recognize what these positions are,' Gonzales said of Lujan's state jobs. 'Not only what these positions are, but that he acquired those positions based on who his father is. For him to deny that, I don't think he's naive. I think he's trying to fool people.'" [Santa Fe New Mexican, 10/20/04]

Cultural Affairs Secretary: Administrative Services Directors Generally Have Experience In Administration & Finance – Current Director Had 25 Years Of Experience. "Lujan was an elected member of the state Public Regulation Commission prior to his winning the 3rd District congressional seat two years ago. He had previously served as deputy state treasurer (2002-03) and director of Administrative Services for the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs (2003-04). Cultural Affairs Secretary Stuart

Ashman said the administrative services director position is an exempt job, meaning it's not protected by civil service rules, the secretary can appoint someone to the position and there aren't statutory job qualifications. 'Usually, it's someone who has experience in administration and finance. My current (administrative services director) has 25 years as administrative services director for the Department of Transportation,' Ashman said." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/20/10]

> **Luján Didn't Receive College Degree Until After Election To PRC.** "A 1990 Pojoaque Valley High School graduate, Luján worked in various casinos from 1993-99 then had stints as marketing director for New Mexico Legislative Reports (1999-2001) and human resources manager at the Downs at Albuquerque (2001-02). Luján didn't have a college degree until after he was elected to the PRC in 2004." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/20/10]
>
> **Cultural Affairs Secretary Called Luján "Invaluable" To Department, Put Department Back On Track.** "Ashman, who was appointed after Luján had taken the job, said Luján was 'invaluable' during his time with the Cultural Affairs Department. 'He put this department back on track with the audits and staffing; and (in) keeping the budget on track,' Ashman said." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/20/10]

Jerome Luján

CREW Report On Nepotism Included Luján For Campaign Payment To Brother's Company For Telecom Installation. "US Reps. Ben Ray Lujan, D-NM, and Steve Pearce, R-NM, are included in a Washington, DC -based ethics group's list of 248 US House of Representative members- 105 Democrats and 143 Republicans- identified for flexing their political muscles to financially support their kin. The report, by the nonprofit Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, found that the named representatives paid a total of $5.6 million directly to family members and $3.1 million to family businesses or nonprofits during the 2008 and 2010 elections. . . . The report finds that Lujan's 2008 election committee, People for Ben, paid $3,465 to Integrated Electric and Utility, a company owned by Lujan's brother, Jerome. In an email to SFR, Lujan spokesman Andrew Stoddard explains that, early on, the campaign needed to install internet and phones in an old building." [Santa Fe Reporter, 4/18/12-4/24/12]

Inexperience

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2004, the Santa Fe Reporter endorsed Luján's primary and general election opponents, noting that Luján was "significantly less knowledgeable" than his opponent*
- ✓ *Luján received an appointment as administrative services director at the Department of Cultural Affairs despite little administrative experience*
- ✓ *Luján didn't complete his college degree until 2007*

Santa Fe Reporter Endorsed Luján's Primary & General Election Opponents, Said Luján Was "Significantly Less Knowledgeable." "Gonzales faces off with Ben Ray Lujan, the Democrat who won the June primary. Lujan has the backing of his father, powerful House Speaker Ben Lujan. Some say the only reason Lujan Jr. won the primary was his father's clout, name recognition and the governor's support. Those people probably have a point, but that is neither here nor there. We can't really tell you much about Lujan Jr.'s views right now, because he never showed up for his general election endorsement interview.* When we interviewed him for the primary, we felt he was significantly less knowledgeable than opponent Bob Perls, whom we did endorse. Whether Lujan won the primary because of his connections isn't our call. Right now, all we know is that Gonzales has more experience, more education and would bring a fresh, unique perspective to a body desperately in need of it." [Editorial, Santa Fe Reporter, 10/27/04-11/2/04]

Cultural Affairs Secretary: Administrative Services Directors Generally Have Experience In Administration & Finance – Current Director Had 25 Years Of Experience. "Lujan was an elected member of the state Public Regulation Commission prior to his winning the 3rd District congressional seat two years ago. He had previously served as deputy state treasurer (2002-03) and director of Administrative Services for the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs (2003-04). Cultural Affairs Secretary Stuart Ashman said the administrative services director position is an exempt job, meaning it's not protected by civil service rules, the secretary can appoint someone to the position and there aren't statutory job qualifications. 'Usually, it's someone who has experience in administration and finance. My current (administrative services director) has 25 years as administrative services director for the Department of Transportation,' Ashman said." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/20/10]

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Cultural Affairs Secretary Called Luján "Invaluable" To Department, Put Department Back On Track. "Ashman, who was appointed after Luján had taken the job, said Luján was 'invaluable' during his time with the Cultural Affairs Department. 'He put this department back on track with the audits and staffing; and (in) keeping the budget on track,' Ashman said." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/20/10]

2008 Primary Opponent Called On Luján To Release College Transcripts. "Don Wiviott on Tuesday stepped up his criticism of a chief rival for the Democratic nomination in the 3rd Congressional District, releasing a second TV attack ad blasting Ben Ray Lujan. Wiviott also called on Lujan, a member of the Public Regulation Commission, to release his college transcripts from New Mexico Highlands University." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/28/08]

Luján Campaign Declined To Release Records, Would Confirm Proof Of Graduation. "The Lujan campaign declined to release his college grades, saying it was a distraction. But aides said they would provide proof of Lujan's graduation as soon as the candidate returns from the campaign trail. The campaign said that 'Lujan will be happy to send Don Wiviott an autographed photo, suitable for framing, of Commissioner Lujan holding his college diploma.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 5/28/08]

College President Confirmed Luján Met Degree Requirements. "Luján, 35, enrolled at Highlands in 1997 and received his bachelor's degree in December 2007, according to university spokesman Sean Weaver. University President James Fries said Luján had met all degree requirements." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/28/08]

CQ Profile Of Luján Observed He Answered Questions With Polished Replies That Sounded Like His Press Releases. "A 2009 profile in Congressional Quarterly, a Washington-based legislative and political news service, said of Luján, 'He follows in the active environmentalist mold of his predecessor, Democrat Tom Udall, who moved to the Senate.' Congressional Quarterly also noted that Luján 'has shown some of the political skills of his father, a well-known veteran dealmaker in New Mexico and speaker of the state House.' The profile also observed that Luján is known for answering questions with polished replies that sound like his news releases." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 10/17/10]

Ethical Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *During his 2008 congressional campaign, Luján pledged to reject money from federal lobbyists*
  - o *In 2011, Luján confirmed that he had changed his position on accepting federal lobbyist money, citing the Citizens United decision and the need to have "the resources necessary to fight back"*
  - o *Luján's congressional campaign received significant support from state-registered lobbyists with ties to Speaker Luján*

- ✓ *In 2011, a police officer convicted of DWI alleged that he was dismissed because of his role in an FBI drug investigation that implicated the city manager. The city manager and a police deputy claimed they had been told the investigation implicated Luján but the officer claimed it implicated scandal-plagued PRC commissioner Jerome Block Jr. Block then alleged that Luján & Speaker Luján were manipulating the officer as part of a cover-up.*

Campaign Contributions

AT&T

Luján Was One Of 72 House Dems That Signed Letter Supporting AT&T Merger – Received $5000 From AT&T PAC. "The dispute leaves Democrats, who typically draw support from both groups, in a murky spot. AT&T's political donations, which amount to nearly $1.3 million this year, typically lean Republican. But 72 Democratic congressmen signed a June letter to the Federal Communications Commission supporting the merger; 66 of those received AT&T donations. Among them was Rep. Ben Ray Lujan, D-Santa Fe, who pocketed $5,000 from AT&T in 2010. Lujan hasn't spoken publicly about the merger. The rest of the state's congressional delegation, along with Gov. Susana Martinez, has also stayed quiet on the issue." [Santa Fe Reporter, 11/16/11-11/22/11]

Downs Casino

The Downs Received Controversial 25-Year State Lease For Racetrack & Planned Casino. "Politics has been described as the way government divides the pie. And in trying to understand why politics works in certain ways, it can be helpful to look at relationships. So, today, we look more at the relationships between Republican Gov. Susana Martinez and The Downs at Albuquerque - selected by a board of gubernatorial appointees to

receive a 25-year lease for the racetrack at the State Fairgrounds and a $20 million casino it plans to build on the property." [UpFront, Albuquerque Journal, 12/10/11]

Luján Received Nearly $10,000 From Partners Of The Downs. "The new president is Bill Windham, a part owner of The Downs and a campaign contributor to Martinez and national GOP groups. . . . Lujan received $2,300 in Downs-related campaign contributions a few years back, but there's a relationship that is more interesting. Windham and Turner sometimes give money to Democrats. Among the recipients: Rep. Ben Ray Luján, D-N.M., the speaker's son. He has pocketed $9,600 from The Downs partners since 2008." [UpFront, Albuquerque Journal, 12/10/11]

Speaker Ben Luján Pushed State Lease Deal With The Downs. "House Speaker Ben Lujan, D-Santa Fe, called a couple weeks ago to say the lease deal with The Downs was needed, because the casino construction would provide needed jobs. I can't recall the last time he phoned." [UpFront, Albuquerque Journal, 12/10/11]

Luján Worked As HR Manager At The Downs From 2001-2002. "A 1990 Pojoaque Valley High School graduate, Luján worked in various casinos from 1993-99 then had stints as marketing director for New Mexico Legislative Reports (1999-2001) and human resources manager at the Downs at Albuquerque (2001-02). Luján didn't have a college degree until after he was elected to the PRC in 2004." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/20/10]

Lobbyist Money Flip-Flop

Luján Committed To Not Accepting Campaign Contributions From Congressional Lobbyists. "'K-Streeters' is Washington, D.C.-speak for lobbyists. Luján has made it a policy not to accept campaign contributions from congressional lobbyists." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 12/10/11]

Luján Fundraising Notices Declared Committee Would Not Take Federal Lobbyist Money. "Like other politicians eager to show the public they're not beholden to Washington's special interests, Democratic Rep. Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico has proudly refused to take campaign contributions from federal lobbyists. The fine print on his fundraising notices made clear that 'People for Ben does not accept contributions from registered federal lobbyists,' a stance that won him praise from editorial writers in his home state as recently as February." [Washington Times, 5/16/11]

Headline: Frontrunner: "New Mexico Democrat Lujan Shifts On Lobbyists' Donations." [Frontrunner, 5/16/11]

Headline: Washington Times: "Lawmaker decides to take cash of lobbyists." [Washington Times, 5/16/11]

Luján Was Feature Speaker At CHC BOLD PAC Held At DC Lobbyist's House. "Yet on a recent evening, Mr. Lujan was the featured lawmaker at a Cinco de Mayo-themed political fundraiser held in the Capitol Hill home of a prominent Washington lobbyist, Robert Raben. The fundraiser benefited the Committee for Hispanic Causes, also known as the CHC BOLD PAC, a political action committee chaired by Mr. Lujan. More than a dozen other lawmakers were mentioned on the invitation to the fundraiser." [Washington Times, 5/16/11]

Invitation To May 2011 Luján Fundraiser Did Not Include Warning Against Taking Lobbyist Money. "But the warning to lobbyists to stay away appears nowhere on an

invitation to an upcoming fundraiser May 20-22, dubbed a 'Santa Fe Weekend Getaway' and asking for $2,500 per contributor - transportation, lodging and expenses not included. The getaway will include a 'welcome dinner, breakfast and art gallery reception with Congressman Lujan ... plus opportunities to visit Santa Fe's famed museums, art galleries, shops, nearby casinos and golf courses,' the invitation said. The invitations to Mr. Lujan's fundraiser were made public by the nonpartisan Sunlight Foundation, which tracks political fundraising activities among federal candidates." [Washington Times, 5/16/11]

Luján Spokesman Confirmed Luján Had Changed Position On Lobbyist Money – "We Must Have The Resources Necessary To Fight Back." "A Lujan spokesman pointed out that Mr. Raben wasn't in attendance, but acknowledged that the congressman's position on taking campaign cash from lobbyists had changed. 'In the wake of the [Supreme Court's] Citizens United case, which allows millions of dollars from secretive third-party organizations to flow into our electoral system with no accountability, we must have the resources necessary to fight back, stand up for the people of New Mexico and - given his responsibility as chair of BOLD PAC - elect Democratic members to Congress,' spokesman Andrew Stoddard wrote in email to The Washington Times." [Washington Times, 5/16/11]

Public Citizen Rep: Luján's Decision To Take Lobbyist Money A "Violation Of His Pledge." "Craig Holman, legislative representative for the D.C.-based watchdog group Public Citizen, called Mr. Lujan's decision to take lobbying contributions 'a violation of his pledge' not to do so." [Washington Times, 5/16/11]

Luján Was Supported In 2008 Campaign By More Than 2 Dozen Lobbyists & Campaign Contributors That Supported His Father. "In the 2008 race to succeed Udall, he campaigned energetically while taking advantage of his family connections -- the Albuquerque Journal reported in April 2008 that more than two dozen lobbyists and other campaign contributors who gave to the elder Lujan also donated to his son -- to easily beat five other primary candidates with more than 41 percent of the vote." [CQ, 7/16/10]

Lobbyist For Bechtel Group Contributed $500 To Luján In 2010. "Among Luján's top contributors is the Bechtel Group, a San Francisco-based international construction company that is part of the team that manages Los Alamos National Laboratory. The company has contributed a total of $5,000 to Luján's campaign this year. Bernie Toon, a lobbyist for the company from Arlington, Va., contributed another $500 to Luján." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 7/16/10]

Dec. 2011: Luján Hosted Lobbyist Fundraiser For Congressional Hispanic Caucus PAC. "Luján hosted a reception for the caucus' political committee earlier this week at the headquarters of Cornerstone Government Affairs, a Washington, D.C., lobbying firm. The invitation, available on the Sunlight Foundation's 'Party Time' website, which tracks congressional fundraisers, asked for contributions of $1,000 to $5,000. The committee has raised $286,740 this year, according to the group's most recent Federal Election Commission filing." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 12/10/11]

State Lobbyist Money

Headline: Albuquerque Journal: "Son Cashes In On His Dad's Connections: House speaker's son has strong support from state lobbyists." [Albuquerque Journal, 4/24/08]

More Than Two Dozen State Lobbyists Who Gave To Ben Luján Contributed To Ben Ray Luján's Congressional Campaign. "Congressional hopeful Ben Ray Lujan shares more than just a name with his father, state House Speaker Ben Lujan. They also share many campaign contributors. More than two dozen of the lobbyists and other supporters who gave to the speaker's 2006 campaign and political fund have also given to his son, according to a Journal analysis of state and federal campaign finance reports. . . . Several Roundhouse lobbyists were among those listed as hosts, along with Speaker Lujan, on an invitation for a fundraiser last month at a private home in Corrales.The campaign reported receiving $25,050 the day of the fundraiser, as well as $36,300 the day after." [Albuquerque Journal, 4/24/08]

> **Luján Received At Least $34,000 From State-Registered Lobbyists.** "Ben Ray Lujan's Federal Election Commission report reads like a who's who of state Democrats, while state-registered lobbyists have pumped about $34,000 into his campaign coffers." [Albuquerque Journal, 4/24/08]

Pfizer Press Conference

Luján Cancelled Press Conference To Introduce Guide For Uninsured Paid For By Pfizer. "It was a classic case of bad timing. Last week there was a news release announcing that U.S. Rep. Ben Ray Luján would be at the state Capitol to help unveil a new publication called the New Mexico Health Guide: Resources for the Uninsured. This is a 'comprehensive listing of health care resources that are available to help uninsured and underinsured residents of New Mexico meet their health care needs, providing contact information and health tips in an easy-to-use and easy-to-read format.' Sounds innocuous enough. Might even help some people. The guide was paid for by Pfizer Helpful Answers, a nonprofit wing of the very profitable Pfizer pharmaceutical company, and the Colorado chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses. The news conference was scheduled for today. But by Wednesday night, Luján canceled his appearance due to 'the recent events regarding the parent company of the foundation' that helped pay for the guide." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 9/3/09]

> **Pfizer Pled Guilty To Fraudulent Marketing, Paid Largest Criminal Fine In American History.** "The 'recent events' actually occurred earlier in the day when Pfizer subsidiary Pharmacia & Upjohn Inc. pleaded guilty to a felony in a federal fraudulent marketing case and the two companies agreed to pay the largest criminal fine in American history. In addition to the $1.2 billion criminal fine, Pfizer also agreed to pay $1 billion in civil penalties and a $100 million criminal forfeiture. The case against Pfizer involved four prescription drugs, including a painkiller Bextra. Prosecutors said the company promoted the drugs as treatments for conditions different from the ones for which they'd been approved." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 9/3/09]

Vigil FBI Investigation Accusations

Cop Convicted Of DWI Alleged In Arbitration Hearing That He Was Dismissed Because Of His Role In FBI Drug Investigation That Implicated City Manager. "In May 2010, Vigil was arrested for driving drunk on N.M. 599. Two breath tests showed that the detective's blood-alcohol concentration was as high as 0.16 percent, twice the presumed level of intoxication for a driver in New Mexico. Vigil was convicted of DWI in March 2011. . . . Rael recommended to Romero, the city manager, that Vigil be fired. Romero concurred and Vigil was terminated in May. During last month's arbitration hearing - part of the appeals process for the fired officer - Vigil argued he was dismissed

because he had been part of an FBI drug investigation that targeted Romero." [Albuquerque Journal, 9/7/11]

Headline: Albuquerque Journal: "Block: Lujáns Influenced Ex-Officer." [Albuquerque Journal, 8/26/11]

City Manager & Deputy Police Chief Testified They Had Heard FBI Investigation Was Aimed At Luján, Several Officers & City Manager. "During the hearing, Deputy Police Chief Gillian Alessio testified that Vigil once told her both Romero and U.S. Rep Ben Ray Luján were subjects of an FBI probe. Romero, in his own testimony, acknowledged that he had heard shortly before firing Vigil in June that there was an FBI investigation of cocaine and prostitution aimed at several Santa Fe police officers, congressman Lujan and himself." [Albuquerque Journal, 9/7/11]

Cop Charged With DWI Claimed PRC Member Jerome Block – Not Luján – Was Target Of FBI Investigation. "Both Vigil and his attorney, David Foster, have repeatedly said since the arbitration hearing that it was embattled Public Regulation Commissioner Jerome Block Jr. - not Luján - whom Vigil had learned was being investigated along with Romero." [Albuquerque Journal, 9/7/11]

> **Deputy Police Chief Said She Was Certain Cop Named Luján, Not Block, As Target Of Investigation.** "But Alessio says she is certain Vigil said Luján's name when he met with her. 'Very clearly,' the deputy chief said. 'He said Ben Ray Luján and the city manager. I said, 'OK, you understand what you're telling me?' That's why I'm sure it's Ben Ray, because I actually questioned him on it.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 8/26/11]

PRC Member Block Claimed Luján & Speaker Luján Manipulated Cop Into Changing His Story To Accuse Block. "PRC Commissioner Jerome Block Jr. adamantly denied implications that he used cocaine or is a target of a drug investigation - an allegation raised by former Santa Fe police Detective James Vigil. Instead, Block leveled accusations at Rep. Ben Ray Luján, contending that he or his father somehow manipulated Vigil into changing his tune about who is being investigated by the FBI. Block said in an interview with the Journal that he is 'tired of being a scapegoat for everyone - in this case Congressman Luján.' . . . He added: 'I think someone of influence got the ear of the detective and changed his story from Congressman Luján to myself. ... Do I want to say he (Vigil) was threatened in any way by the Lujáns? Maybe so.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 8/26/11]

Luján Dismissed Accusations As Ridiculous," "Absolutely Untrue." "Ben Ray Luján's camp sternly denied the congressman has had any involvement with Vigil or is being investigated by the FBI. 'This is absolutely untrue,' said Luján's spokesman Andrew Stoddard. 'It's another false accusation with no proof, no evidence. We have never spoken to or had any contact with the officer, his lawyer or anyone like that. It's just a ridiculous accusation, unfounded and unproven, from someone in desperation.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 8/26/11]

Luján: "I Don't Know What Else I Need To Do To Clear My Name." "Luján on Tuesday called the idea that he was under investigation outrageous and slanderous. Wednesday, he said that given what Vigil has told reporters, 'I don't know what else I need to do to clear my name.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 8/25/11]

Luján Called Accusations Slanderous, Reckless. "Lujan, a New Mexico Democrat, described the accusations in a telephone interview with The Associated Press as unfounded, untrue, reckless, slanderous and 'absolutely ridiculous.' Lujan is in his second term representing New Mexico's 3rd Congressional District. 'We're going to keep working as hard as we do and visiting with our constituency. But again, these are the worst kinds of distractions that could possibly be espoused by people who are telling outright lies,' he said. 'The slanderous nature of this, the reckless accusations, this is just ridiculous.' . . . 'You can image how upset and hurt I am about what's being said,' the congressman said. 'I'm sure you can hear the tone of my voice. This is just ridiculous.'" [AP, 8/24/11]

Speaker Luján Announced Appointment Of Subcommittee To Impeach PRC Member Block After Felony Campaign Malfeasance Charges. "State legislators are poised to mount an impeachment campaign against Public Regulation Commissioner Jerome D. Block Jr. Speaker of the House Ben Lujan announced Tuesday that he will appoint a subcommittee to consider impeachment proceedings against Block, a Democrat from Espanola. Lujan, D-Santa Fe, said he would make the appointments of House members on Sept. 6, the first day of a special legislative session. Block is charged with felonies for election campaign malfeasance. More recently, the state began investigating him in the theft of gasoline on his state charge card." [Las Cruces Sun-News, 8/24/11]

Campaign Finance

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Luján took out and repaid a $200,000 loan for his 2008 campaign with an added $31,420 in loan interest payments*
  - *The loans are not listed on Luján's personal financial disclosures*

- ✓ *In 2009, the Luján campaign paid $54,000 in back taxes to the federal government, including nearly $14,000 in interest and penalties, after underpaying its payroll taxes in 2008*

- ✓ *In 2015, Luján donated to charity $2500 he received during the 2008 campaign from Sen. Menendez*

Loan Repayments

Luján Reported $199,997 In Campaign Loan Repayments:

Loan Source Name	Description	Payment Date	Amount
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Pay Off	5/20/2008	$49,993.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Repayment	4/8/2009	$2,962.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Repayment	5/8/2009	$10,000.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Forgiveness	6/30/2009	$6.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Repayment	8/14/2009	$10,000.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Repayment	6/21/2010	$11,760.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Repayment	12/29/2010	$11,400.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Repayment	3/2/2011	$10,200.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Repayment	1/25/2011	$10,500.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Repayment	6/2/2011	$10,000.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Repayment	1/12/2012	$10,000.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Repayment	4/3/2012	$10,000.00

Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Repayment	5/29/2012	$11,000.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Repayment	6/22/2012	$17,834.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Loan Paid In Full	6/30/2012	$24,342.00
TOTAL			**$199,997.00**

[FEC, accessed 3/23/15]

Luján Reported $53,084 In Campaign Reimbursements & Payments To Himself, Including $31,420 In Loan Interest:

Payee Name	Purpose	Date	Amount
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Reimbursement For Campaign Expenses	6/2/2008	$1,399.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Reimbursement For Campaign Expenses	6/2/2008	$1,270.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Reimbursement For Campaign Loan Interest	6/4/2008	$423.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Office Supplies	2/12/2008	$292.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Reimbursement For Campaign Loan Interest	3/31/2009	$2,500.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Reimbursement For Expenses	1/2/2009	$924.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Reimbursement For Expenses	1/2/2009	$364.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Reimbursement For Expenses	1/2/2009	$919.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Reimbursement For Campaign Loan Interest	4/8/2009	$7,037.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Reimbursement For Campaign Loan Interest	7/1/2009	$2,269.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Reimbursement For Campaign Loan Interest	6/21/2010	$8,239.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Reimbursement For Campaign Loan Interest	7/18/2011	$6,787.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Campaign Event Expense	8/29/2012	$1,240.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Campaign Event Expense	8/29/2012	$1,062.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Reimbursement For Campaign Loan Interest	6/22/2012	$4,165.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Campaign Event Expense	11/5/2012	$875.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Campaign Event Expense	11/5/2012	$1,166.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Travel And Food	12/16/2014	$1,341.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Campaign Event Expense	12/30/2013	$1,862.00

Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Campaign Event Expense	12/31/2013	$1,544.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Travel - Meals	10/10/2014	$626.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Reimbursement For Gas And Parking Expenses	8/15/2014	$268.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Campaign Events Expense	8/15/2014	$5,112.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Campaign Events And Meals	11/12/2014	$754.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Campaign Supplies	11/12/2014	$416.00
Lujan, Ben Ray Mr.	Lodging	11/12/2014	$230.00
TOTAL			**$53,084.00**

[FEC, accessed 3/23/15]

Campaign Loan Interest Rate: 15.7%. Luján took in $31,240 in interest on $200,000 in loans to his campaign for an interest rate of 15.71%. [FEC, accessed 3/23/15]

Campaign Loans & Interest Not Listed On Personal Financial Disclosures. Luján's personal financial disclosures filed with the U.S. House of Representatives do not include the loan to his campaign committee or any interest received from repayment of the loan. His 2011 and 2012 disclosures list as a liability a $50,001-$100,000 mortgage on his house through Valley National Bank of Espanola, NM with the notation "mortgage on El Rancho home – loan to the campaign." [House Financial Disclosures – Ben Ray Luján, 2008-2013]

Tax Penalties

Luján Campaign Paid $13,627 In Tax Penalties & Interest For 2008 Campaign:

Payee Name	Purpose	Date	Amount
United States Treasury	Tax Penalties & Interest-2008	3/24/2009	$13,627.00

[FEC, accessed 3/23/15]

2008 Luján Campaign Underpaid Payroll Taxes – Owed Government More Than $54,000. "During this tax season, U.S. Rep. Ben Ray Luján knows what it's like to feel the pinch of the Internal Revenue Service. Luján last month discovered that his campaign had underpaid payroll taxes for his campaign staff last year and owed the government more than $54,000 -- including $13,627 in penalties and interest. . . . 'At the end of the year, the campaign initiated an internal review of the activities over the past year,' the Luján campaign said Thursday in a written statement. 'During the review, the campaign found underpayments. Once these errors were discovered, the campaign, on its own moved forward to address the oversight. A full review of all records was conducted and it showed underpayments to the Internal Revenue Service and errors in past documents. Upon discovery of these errors, the campaign paid all amounts due and corrected all reports. It was very disappointing that these errors occurred.'" [Santa Fe New Mexican, 4/17/09]

Headline: Santa Fe New Mexican: "Luján Settles $54,000 Debt With IRS." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 4/17/09]

Campaign Contributions

Luján Campaign Contributed $2000 To Menendez For Senate In 2011:

Payee Name	Purpose	City	State	Date	Amount
Menendez For Senate	Contribution	Newark	NJ	6/16/2011	$2,000.00

[FEC, accessed 3/23/15]

Luján Donated $2500 Contribution From NJ Sen. Menendez To Santa Fe Charities. "Count Rep. Ben Ray Luján, a New Mexican who chairs the DCCC, among that group. Luján's spokesman told me last week he would donate $2,500 he received from Menendez in 2008 to charities in Santa Fe. 'The campaign will donate the money to two local organizations that are doing great work supporting our veterans - Horses for Heroes in Santa Fe and Not Forgotten Outreach in Taos,' Luján spokesman Andrew Stoddard said. Horses for Heroes bills itself as a 'horsemanship, wellness and skill-set restructuring program based in Santa Fe, NM free to all post 9/11 veterans and active military (both men and women) especially those who have sustained PTSD, physical injuries, or have experienced combat trauma during their time serving our country.' The Not Forgotten Association describes itself as 'a unique national tri-service charity which provides entertainment, leisure and recreation for the serving wounded, injured or sick and for ex-service men and women with disabilities.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 4/12/15]

Election 2004

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Luján's primary opponent attacked him for taking thousands in contributions from lobbyists representing companies regulated by the PRC*

Campaign Finance

Primary Opponent Attacked Luján For Taking Thousands In Contributions From Lobbyists For Industries Regulated By PRC. "Candidate Bob Perls of Corrales is knocking Ben Ray Lujan of Santa Fe -- son of House of Representatives Speaker Ben Lujá n of Nambé -- for taking thousands of dollars from lobbyists who represent industries regulated by the commission. . . . In campaign-finance reports filed this week, Lujan lists contributions from lobbyists who represent cell-phone-service providers, health-insurance providers, gasoline distributors and others." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/29/04]

> **PRC Candidates & Members Are Prohibited From Accepting Contributions Directly From Individuals & Companies With Service Charges Regulated By PRC.** "The New Mexico Constitution prohibits candidates for the PRC as well as sitting commissioners from accepting anything of value from persons or entities whose charges for service are regulated by the commission. The commission regulates electrical utilities, telecommunications companies, the insurance industry and public transportation. Despite that prohibition, the New Mexico attorney general's office has said it's permissible for registered lobbyists who represent companies regulated by the commission to contribute their personal funds to candidates and commissioners." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/29/04]
>
> **Luján Returned Contribution From Gasoline Refining Company That Operated Pipelines Regulated By PRC.** "Lujan reported a $300 contribution from Giant Industries, a gasoline-refining company. The company operates pipelines in the state that are regulated by the PRC's pipeline-safety division. Gary Kilpatric, a Santa Fe lawyer and registered lobbyist for Giant, said Friday that the donation to Lujan's campaign was legal because the commission doesn't regulate the amount Giant may charge for its services although the commission may oversee aspects of Giant's pipelines. Nonetheless, when asked about the Giant contribution Friday, Lujan spokesman Juan Rios said the campaign returned the money Wednesday. Rios provided a copy of the reimbursement check to the company but the repayment was not listed on financial reports the Lujan campaign filed with the New Mexico secretary of state's office Thursday and Friday." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/29/04]

Inexperience

Santa Fe Reporter Endorsed Luján's Primary & General Election Opponents, Said Luján Was "Significantly Less Knowledgeable." "Gonzales faces off with Ben Ray Lujan, the Democrat who won the June primary. Lujan has the backing of his father, powerful House Speaker Ben Lujan. Some say the only reason Lujan Jr. won the primary

was his father's clout, name recognition and the governor's support. Those people probably have a point, but that is neither here nor there. We can't really tell you much about Lujan Jr.'s views right now, because he never showed up for his general election endorsement interview.* When we interviewed him for the primary, we felt he was significantly less knowledgeable than opponent Bob Perls, whom we did endorse. Whether Lujan won the primary because of his connections isn't our call. Right now, all we know is that Gonzales has more experience, more education and would bring a fresh, unique perspective to a body desperately in need of it." [Editorial, Santa Fe Reporter, 10/27/04-11/2/04]

Nepotism

Ben Ray Luján & Speaker Luján Shared Mailing Address With Separate Homes On Family Compound And Speaker Luján Filed Campaign Finance Report For Ben Ray Luján. "Ben Ray Lujan shares a mailing address with his father in Nambé. They live in separate houses at the family compound, said Lujan spokesman Juan Rios. Political funds controlled by Speaker Ben Lujan pumped $1,000 into his son's campaign this month, records on file with the Bureau of Elections show. And the senior Lujan filed his son's campaign-finance report at the Bureau of Elections last week." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 10/20/04]

Gonzales: Luján Got Multiple State Jobs As A Result Of His Father's Influence. "Speaking of Lujan's recent jobs in state government, Gonzales said it's clear Lujan is over his head and only received the state jobs through family ties. 'His saying that these were not politically motivated, I think it's a failure on his part to recognize what these positions are,' Gonzales said of Lujan's state jobs. 'Not only what these positions are, but that he acquired those positions based on who his father is. For him to deny that, I don't think he's naive. I think he's trying to fool people.'" [Santa Fe New Mexican, 10/20/04]

Election 2008

Significant Findings

- ✓ *During his 2008 congressional campaign, Luján pledged to reject money from federal lobbyists*
  - o *Luján's congressional campaign received significant support from state-registered lobbyists with ties to Speaker Luján*
- ✓ *In 2008, Speaker Luján reversed his position on a ballot eligibility bill that would help Luján's congressional bid and was accused of working behind the scenes to remove primary opponents from the ballot*
- ✓ *Luján's primary opponent alleged Luján was hiding his homosexuality and that his family had hired a woman to pose as his girlfriend*
- ✓ *Luján's opponents attacked him over corruption issues at the PRC and Treasurer's Office and taxpayer funded trips out-of-state at PRC*

Campaign Finance

Luján Was Only Democratic Candidate To Accept Money From Private Prison Lobby. "Meanwhile, frustration mounted among the field of Democratic congressional hopefuls to replace US Rep. Tom Udall in District 3 when Ben Ray Luján won AFSCME's endorsement, although he was the only candidate to accept money from the prison privatization lobby, one of the union's Many believed the fix was in for Ben Ray, son of New Mexico's powerful Speaker of the House Ben Luján Sr." [Santa Fe Reporter, 12/24/08-1/6/09]

Headline: Albuquerque Journal: "Son Cashes In On His Dad's Connections: House speaker's son has strong support from state lobbyists." [Albuquerque Journal, 4/24/08]

More Than Two Dozen State Lobbyists Who Gave To Ben Luján Contributed To Ben Ray Luján's Congressional Campaign. "Congressional hopeful Ben Ray Lujan shares more than just a name with his father, state House Speaker Ben Lujan. They also share many campaign contributors. More than two dozen of the lobbyists and other supporters who gave to the speaker's 2006 campaign and political fund have also given to his son, according to a Journal analysis of state and federal campaign finance reports. . . . Several Roundhouse lobbyists were among those listed as hosts, along with Speaker Lujan,

on an invitation for a fundraiser last month at a private home in Corrales.The campaign reported receiving $25,050 the day of the fundraiser, as well as $36,300 the day after." [Albuquerque Journal, 4/24/08]

> **Luján Received At Least $34,000 From State-Registered Lobbyists.** "Ben Ray Lujan's Federal Election Commission report reads like a who's who of state Democrats, while state-registered lobbyists have pumped about $34,000 into his campaign coffers." [Albuquerque Journal, 4/24/08]

Luján Campaign Rejected Contributions From Companies & Lobbyists With Matters Before PRC. "Campaign aides say the candidate does not accept money from companies regulated by the Public Regulation Commission, of which the younger Lujan is a member, or their lobbyists. But records show the campaign received $1,300 from Tom Horan, who represents Presbyterian Health Plan and numerous other clients. Campaign spokesman Carlos Trujillo said the money would be returned if that's the case." [Albuquerque Journal, 4/24/08]

Luján's Opponent Slammed Him For Accepting Money From Local Bank Investigated By FBI For Controversial Insurance Asset Contract. "During the campaign, he took heat from his opponent over an FBI investigation into a controversial insurance asset contract with a local bank that contributed, ultimately, to the conviction of a deputy insurance superintendent on corruption charges and the resignation of former Insurance Superintendent Eric Serna." [BestWire, 11/17/08]

State Department Of Transportation Worker Sent Luján Fundraising Invite From Government Email. "A state Department of Transportation spokesman said the department will look into whether a DOT employee has been using state time or equipment for a political campaign. The Journal received an anonymous fax Tuesday with a copy of a message sent from a state government e-mail address by DOT worker Eric Lujan, who has run for Santa Fe City Council, to David Montoya of the New Mexico Democratic Club. Lujan informs Montoya in the e-mail, which is stamped as sent at 11:43 a.m. Sept. 9., that he is hosting two events for Ben Ray Lujan, the Democratic nominee for the 3rd Congressional District seat. The e-mail says one is a private fundraiser and the other is a free public event. 'We would like to see an attendance of 1,000 to 1,500 people so were (sic) coordinating with all the counties in the 3rd congressional district to make this attendance a reality,' Lujan wrote. 'Anything you can do to help us out would be greatly appreciated.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 10/15/08]

> **Luján Campaign Condemned Email, Cancelled Fundraiser.** "Mark Nicastre, a spokesman for the Ben Ray Lujan campaign, said the campaign 'does not condone the inappropriate use of state resources' for political purposes and has told supporters not to conduct campaign work on state time or with state resources. Because of the questions raised over Eric Lujan's e-mail, Nicastre said late Tuesday, the campaign has canceled the fundraiser." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/15/08]

Luján Hired Private Investigator To Conduct Research On Himself, Opponents. "Don Wiviott's congressional campaign is criticizing rival Ben Ray Lujan for hiring a private investigator to research Lujan and his opponents. 'In politics, one of the sleaziest and most sordid things you can do is hire a private investigator,' Wiviott spokesman Webster Cash said Wednesday. . . . 'This is a standard campaign practice,' said Lujan spokeswoman Mona Blaber. Blaber said the investigator has researched not only other candidates but Lujan himself, so that the campaign knows what sort of attacks to expect. In November, the Lujan campaign paid Albuquerque private investigator Mike Corwin

$750 for research, according to the campaign's final 2007 report to the Federal Elections Commission." [Albuquerque Journal, 4/3/08]

> **Headline: Albuquerque Journal: "Wiviott Campaign Criticizes Rival: Lujan Hired An Investigator.**" [Albuquerque Journal, 4/3/08]

Education

2008 Primary Opponent Called On Luján To Release College Transcripts. "Don Wiviott on Tuesday stepped up his criticism of a chief rival for the Democratic nomination in the 3rd Congressional District, releasing a second TV attack ad blasting Ben Ray Lujan. Wiviott also called on Lujan, a member of the Public Regulation Commission, to release his college transcripts from New Mexico Highlands University." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/28/08]

> **Luján Campaign Declined To Release Records, Would Confirm Proof Of Graduation.** "The Lujan campaign declined to release his college grades, saying it was a distraction. But aides said they would provide proof of Lujan's graduation as soon as the candidate returns from the campaign trail. The campaign said that 'Lujan will be happy to send Don Wiviott an autographed photo, suitable for framing, of Commissioner Lujan holding his college diploma.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 5/28/08]

> **College President Confirmed Luján Met Degree Requirements.** "Luján, 35, enrolled at Highlands in 1997 and received his bachelor's degree in December 2007, according to university spokesman Sean Weaver. University President James Fries said Luján had met all degree requirements." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/28/08]

Nepotism

Democratic Primary Opponent Slammed Luján For Nepotism, Missing Commission Meetings & Out-Of-State Travel. "Both Lujá n and Wiviott advertised heavily on broadcast television. In the final weeks, the on-air campaign turned negative. Wiviott mocked Lujá n as a former blackjack dealer whose father got him high-level state jobs. The Wiviott ads attacked Lujá n for missing most meetings of a state commission to which he was appointed and for traveling out-of-state on PRC business." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 6/4/08]

Primary Opponent Ran Ad Attacking Luján For Background As Casino Dealer, Painted Luján As Product Of Political Patronage. "Don Wiviott has put some new chips on the table in the 3rd Congressional District race, with an advertisement that plays up a key opponent's background as a casino card dealer. Wiviott's salvo against Public Regulation Commissioner Ben Ray Lujan -- the first television attack ad of the campaign -- also attempts to dismiss Lujan as a product of political patronage. . . . The ad begins with a narrator asserting that most New Mexicans work hard 'to make it on their own.' 'Not Ben Ray Lujan Jr.,' the narration continues. 'Lujan was a blackjack dealer in Las Vegas before his famous father got him a state job.' Lujan is the son of New Mexico House Speaker Ben Lujan." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/20/08]

> **Luján Worked As Casino Card Dealer In Pojoaque And Near Lake Tahoe From 1993-1997.** "When a reporter asked earlier this month whether Luján had been a blackjack dealer, Nicastre said Luján had worked jobs including as a dealer at a Pojoaque Pueblo casino from 1994 to 1998. Nicastre on Monday said he

misspoke when he provided the Pojoaque employment dates for a profile of Luján that ran in Sunday's New Mexican. He said Monday that Luján worked at the pueblo from 1993 to 1995. The Wiviott ad says Luján was a blackjack dealer in Las Vegas from 1995 to 1997, which had been reported in a 2004 profile of Luján in The New Mexican. Nicastre on Monday confirmed Luján worked as a dealer in a casino in Nevada -- at Lake Tahoe, he said, not Las Vegas -- from 1995 to 1997." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 5/20/08]

Primary Opponent Accused Speaker Luján Of Working Behind The Scenes To Mount Legal Challenges To Ballot Eligibility Of Ben Ray Luján's Opponents. "Legal challenges made against two candidates for the District 3 Congressional seat have raised questions about state election laws and charges Rep. Ben Lujan is maneuvering to secure the nomination for his son, Ben Ray Lujan. The lawsuits revolve around the validity of signatures on nominating petitions for Rudy Martín, a Dixon attorney, and Santa Fe builder Don Wiviott. . . . . Martín charged Speaker Lujan is working behind the scenes to keep challengers to his son off the state primary election ballot." [Taos News, 3/6/08]

> **Speaker Luján Denied Involvement In Lawsuits.** "'Why would I want to get him out of the race,' Speaker Lujan said in response to Martín's accusation. 'I had no knowledge about this until I saw it in the paper.' Lujan emphasized that he had no participation in bringing either lawsuit." [Taos News, 3/6/08]
>
> **NM GOP: Speaker Luján Flipped Position On Ballot Access, Announced Support For Restricting Access While Ben Ray Luján Was Running For Congress.** "Today, Democrat House Speaker Ben Lujan told political blogger Heath Haussamen that he will support changes to a law that restricts ballot access in the upcoming legislative session, in favor of allowing candidates who do not get 20% of their party's support at their pre-primary nominating convention to pursue another method of getting on the ballot. Prior to today, Lujan has staunchly opposed changing the measure, with many speculating that his son, Ben Ray Lujan, could benefit from restrictive ballot access laws in his race for the 3rd congressional district. " [NM GOP press release, 1/8/08]

Personal Life

Headline: Albuquerque Journal: "Candidates Clash Over Gay Question." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/22/08]

Primary Opponent Benny Shendo Accused Luján Of Hiding That He Was Gay, Hiring Someone To Pose As His Girlfriend. "Congressional candidate Benny Shendo Jr. is under fire after raising questions about opponent Ben Ray Luján's sexual orientation and whether Luján has been honest about it. Shendo triggered the furor during a candidate forum earlier this week in Farmington, and a top Shendo campaign staffer went so far as to suggest Luján's family had hired a woman to pose as his girlfriend at public functions. . . . Addressing Luján at the Farmington event on Monday, Shendo said: 'You say you stand up for the people of New Mexico. And I want to know how you can stand up for the people of New Mexico if you can't stand up to your mom and dad about your lifestyle.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 5/22/08]

> **Luján Campaign Responded Luján Was Not Gay, Had Longtime Girlfriend Who Appeared At Events With Him – Opponent's Claims Were "Desperate And Low-Class."** "The Luján campaign Wednesday denied the candidate was gay and said he has a longtime girlfriend frequently seen on the campaign trail. A Luján

spokesman called Shendo's question at the Farmington debate 'desperate and low-class' and said the incident should be a 'nonstory' as far as media coverage goes." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/22/08]

Shendo Claimed Luján's Sexuality Was "Public Knowledge." "Shendo's camp said Luján's sexuality and the questions about his girlfriend are 'public knowledge' but couldn't offer proof. Shendo's Wednesday statement said: 'If all the people who have known Ben Ray over the years at the statehouse, in the community and in his own extended family, and have known for years and accepted him as gay are wrong, that's perfectly fine. His sexuality is not the issue here.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 5/22/08]

PRC

Independent Candidate Criticized Luján For Corruption Issues At PRC & State Treasurer's Office. "Miller asked Lujan about corruption at the state Treasurer's Office and the Public Regulation Commission during his tenure at those agencies and whether he had 'missed' the misdeeds. Lujan said that, at the PRC, he had adopted a national code of conduct and that there's a new state insurance superintendent since a deputy superintendent was charged and convicted of public corruption. But Miller countered that 'it was the media' and federal authorities that brought up the problems at the two agencies, 'not anyone inside.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 10/20/08]

Headline: Associated Press: "Miller questions Lujan on corruption." [Associated Press, 10/20/08]

Luján Campaign Initially Stood By Democratic PRC Nominee Jerome Block Jr. In Wake Of Previously Undisclosed Arrest Record. "After the first story broke about Block's previously undisclosed arrest for riding with an intoxicated driver and citation for urinating in public [Outtakes, June 25: 'Failure to Appear'], Luján's campaign stood by Block, telling the New Mexico Independent: 'Ben Ray Luján supports a strong Democratic ticket with candidates that will stand up for New Mexico and that includes Jerome Block Jr.' Indeed, earlier in the general election cycle, Luján and Block appeared at joint campaign events. Now, however, Luján's campaign says it has not endorsed and has no plans to endorse in the PRC race." [Santa Fe Reporter, 9/17/08-9/23/08]

Democratic Opponent Attacked Luján For Taxpayer Funded Trips On PRC. "Wiviott's new TV spot follows an initial commercial released last week that criticized Lujan. In the new ad, the announcer says over footage of sandy beaches and Reno casinos, 'Lujan used our money to fly to Miami, a pattern of taxpayerfunded trips from Reno to San Diego on top of his $90,000 salary.' A Lujan spokesman said the three trips mentioned in the ad were work-related: two were training for regulatory commissioners and the third was the annual meeting of the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/28/08]

Elections (Non-Luján) & Politics

CHC

As CHC Recruitment Director, Luján Recruited Ruben Kihuen To Run For Nevada's 1st Congressional District, Called John Oceguera A "Friend." "'Have the maps been drawn?' said Rep. Ben Ray Lujan, who is in charge of recruitment for the CHC, and has been one of Kihuen's biggest national boosters. Lujan did not deny he'd been in touch with Titus in recent days, but he dodged questions about the substance of those conversations. 'Dina's a friend, Ruben's a friend, [state Senate Majority Leader Steven] Horsford's a friend, [Assembly] Speaker [John] Oceguera's a friend,' Lujan said. 'Look, I want to encourage Ruben to get in there and get after this...we'll see what ultimately happens once ... people decide what districts they're going to be running in. I think we have to have the best candidates we can in each of those districts to get them into the Congress.'" [Las Vegas Sun, 11/2/11]

DCCC

NRCC Slammed Luján As "Uber-Liberal" Who Backed Amnesty, Tax Hikes & Expansion Of ACA. "While Democrats were congratulating Luján on Capitol Hill, officials at the National Republican Congressional Committee - the DCCC's counterpart - appeared pleased with the selection, as well - but for different reasons. Ian Prior, spokesman for the NRCC, said Luján is among the most liberal members of the House and his politics will fall flat with many Americans. 'In selecting Ben Luján to head the DCCC, Nancy Pelosi has chosen a member of the uber-liberal House Progressive Caucus who has routinely voted for budgets that include amnesty for illegal immigrants, tax rates as high as 49%, and a massive expansion of Obamacare,' Prior said. 'This pick will give rise to plenty of awkward moments on the 2016 campaign trail as Democrats in swing states will have to distance themselves from incoming Chairman Luján, the very person tasked with helping them get elected.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 11/17/14]

Luján: "I Will Never, Ever Abandon New Mexico. . . . I'm Always Grounded." "Meanwhile, Luján said he's studying the national political terrain and ready to jump enthusiastically into the new job. But he promises he'll always keep his feet in New Mexico. 'My dad (the late New Mexico House Speaker Ben Lujan) taught me the importance of taking care of the farm and home,' Luján said. 'That is my home. My mom is home. I have responsibility to her and I'm never going to abandon that. New Mexico is where I was born and raised, and I will never, ever abandon New Mexico. I'm always grounded,' he added." [Albuquerque Journal, 11/23/14]

House Leadership

Luján Appointed Chief Deputy Whip In 2013. "New Mexico Rep. Ben Ray Lujan has been appointed a chief deputy whip for the 113rd Congress. Whips are responsible for mobilizing the party vote on important bills before they come to the floor for a vote. They also act as a liaison between members and the caucus to build support for the Democratic agenda. In addition to Lujan, House Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer appointed Reps. Keith Ellison and Terri Sewell to his team. Lujan, who represents northern New Mexico, says he looks forward to helping promote an agenda that creates jobs and opportunities for the American people." [AP, 1/5/13]

Election 2016

Santa Fe New Mexican: "Luján Didn't Outright Endorse Clinton." "The other Democrat in the delegation, U.S. Rep. Ben Ray Luján, didn't outright endorse Clinton. But through the Democratic Congressional Committee, which he heads, Luján issued a news release that said, 'If chosen as our presidential nominee, Hillary Clinton will bring experience and energy to the campaign trail that will turn out hard-working families in New Mexico and across the country, and excite a new generation of Democrats.'" [Santa Fe New Mexican, 4/19/15]

Election 2014

Luján Blamed Cantor Loss On Losing Touch With His District – "Members Need To Be Back Working In Their Districts." "Rep. Steve Pearce, the delegation's only Republican, concurred: 'It looks like Cantor just lost contact with the district. There was some immigration flashback, but it was more that he just wasn't in the district much. I go home a lot for this very reason. Voters can decide overnight 'you haven't been here much - see ya.' You need to be back and working with the people who elected you.' Rep. Ben Ray Lujan echoed his colleague's remarks, saying, 'Members need to be back working in their districts.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 6/15/14]

Pre-House Career

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Luján worked in casinos on and off from 1993-2001 – though the NM Gaming Control Board did not identify any gaming work permits for Luján*

- ✓ *Luján received an appointment as administrative services director at the Department of Cultural Affairs despite little administrative experience*

- ✓ *In at least 3 instances, Lujan failed to provide the legislative analysis requested of him while at the Department of Cultural Affairs*

- ✓ *Luján had a 97% attendance rate at PRC meetings*

- ✓ *Luján prompted the state of New Mexico to begin gathering health insurance claim denial data and a state lawmaker called him "instrumental" in passing legislation to close insurance coverage loopholes*

- ✓ *In 2005, a former state employee sued Luján and two other commissioners, alleging he had been fired for recommending an investigation into a PRC bribe solicitation. PRC settled the case for an undisclosed amount in 2006.*

- ✓ *In 2008, the Luján campaign initially stood by PRC nominee Jerome Block Jr. in the wake of a previously undisclosed arrest record. When Block was indicted on felony corruption charges in 2009, Luján declined to explicitly call for resignation.*

- ✓ *In 2007, a jury awarded more than $840,000 in damages to a former PRC employee who alleged sexual harassment & retaliation by a commissioner and staffer. Luján condemned the behavior but declined to call for the commissioner's resignation.*

- ✓ *In 2007, Luján recused himself from a title insurance appeal case at the request of the NM Land Title Association after it was revealed that Luján had accepted a meeting with a politically influential title company co-owner. Luján suggested the group asked for his recusal because he supported tougher reforms for the title insurance industry.*

Casinos

Luján Worked In Casinos From 1993-1999 And As HR Manager At The Downs From 2001-2002. "A 1990 Pojoaque Valley High School graduate, Luján worked in various casinos from 1993-99 then had stints as marketing director for New Mexico Legislative Reports (1999-2001) and human resources manager at the Downs at Albuquerque (2001-02). Luján didn't have a college degree until after he was elected to the PRC in 2004." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/20/10]

The New Mexico Gaming Control Board Said That Ben Ray Lujan "Did Not Hold A License." In an email dated July 15, 2015, Raechelle Camacho, Records custodian for the New Mexico Gaming Control Board wrote, "Thank you for your inquiry. Ben Ray Lujan did not hold a license issued under the Gaming Control Act during the years 1992 - 2002. Therefore, the specific records that you request to inspect do not exist with the Gaming Control Board. Our search for records is complete." [Email from Raechelle Camacho, NM Gaming Control Board, 07/15/15]

> **New Mexico Casino Employees Needed A Gaming Work Permit To Work In Gambling Operations.** In the most recent "New Mexico Gaming Work Permit Application" which is dated "Revised March 2011" and was available as recently as August 2015 from the Gaming Control Board website, the GCB wrote, "During the licensing process, we will conduct a thorough check of your background. This will include, without exception, a criminal background check. It may also involve an examination of your financial records and other documents. If you pass the background investigation, you will be issued a work permit that will allow you to work in a gaming establishment. You should know that a gaming work permit is a privilege, not a right. To be considered for this privilege, you must be thoroughly honest on your license application." [New Mexico Gaming Work Permit Application, Revised March 2011, accessed 08/11/15 (pdf)]

Cultural Affairs

Cultural Affairs Secretary: Administrative Services Directors Generally Have Experience In Administration & Finance – Current Director Had 25 Years Of Experience. "Lujan was an elected member of the state Public Regulation Commission prior to his winning the 3rd District congressional seat two years ago. He had previously served as deputy state treasurer (2002-03) and director of Administrative Services for the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs (2003-04). Cultural Affairs Secretary Stuart Ashman said the administrative services director position is an exempt job, meaning it's not protected by civil service rules, the secretary can appoint someone to the position and there aren't statutory job qualifications. 'Usually, it's someone who has experience in administration and finance. My current (administrative services director) has 25 years as administrative services director for the Department of Transportation,' Ashman said." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/20/10]

> **Luján Didn't Receive College Degree Until After Election To PRC.** "A 1990 Pojoaque Valley High School graduate, Luján worked in various casinos from 1993-99 then had stints as marketing director for New Mexico Legislative Reports (1999-2001) and human resources manager at the Downs at Albuquerque (2001-02). Luján didn't have a college degree until after he was elected to the PRC in 2004." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/20/10]

Cultural Affairs Secretary Called Luján "Invaluable" To Department, Put Department Back On Track. "Ashman, who was appointed after Luján had taken the job, said Luján was "invaluable" during his time with the Cultural Affairs Department. 'He put this department back on track with the audits and staffing; and (in) keeping the budget on track,' Ashman said." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/20/10]

Legislative Analysis

The DCA's Employees Were Required To Provide Legislative Analysis For The Legislative Finance Committee During The 2003 Session. According to a memo from "David Abbey, Director" of the Legislative Finance Committee, sent to "All State Agencies" on December 30, 2002, "During the 2003 Legislative Session, as in previous years, the New Mexico Legislature will rely on state agencies to produce analyses of proposed legislation. The Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) will use an e-mail system for requesting and transmitting bill analyses." [Memo: 2003 Legislative Session – Agency Bill Analyses, 12/30/02]

Lujan Was Responsible For Legislative Analysis For "State Comptroller Office" In 2003. According to a hand-written form titled "OCA Bill Analysis/House Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session" the bill HB 223, "State Comptroller Office," was assigned to Ben Ray Lujan on "1/28" and the "Date Out" was recorded as "1-30". [OCA Bill Analysis/House Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session]

Lujan Was Responsible For Legislative Analysis For "Design + Build Project Eligibility" In 2003. According to a hand-written form titled "OCA Bill Analysis/House Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session" the bill HB 428, "Design + Build Project Eligibility," was assigned to Ben Ray Lujan on "2/3" and the "Date Out" was recorded as "No Show". [OCA Bill Analysis/House Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session]

Lujan Was Responsible For Legislative Analysis For "State Fund Deposits By OCA/Monuments" In 2003. According to a hand-written form titled "OCA Bill Analysis/House Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session" the bill HB 523, "State Fund Deposits By OCA/Monuments," was assigned to Ben Ray Lujan on "2/5" and the "Date Out" was recorded as "2-10". [OCA Bill Analysis/House Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session]

Lujan Was Responsible For Legislative Analysis For "Competition Proposal Contracting" In 2003. According to a hand-written form titled "OCA Bill Analysis/House Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session" the bill HB 573, "Competition Proposal Contracting," was assigned to Ben Ray Lujan on "2/7" and the "Date Out" was recorded as "No Show". [OCA Bill Analysis/House Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session]

Lujan Was Responsible For Legislative Analysis For "NMFA Loan Agreements With OCA" In 2003. According to a hand-written form titled "OCA Bill Analysis/House Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session" the bill HB 845, "NMFA Loan Agreements With OCA," was assigned to Ben Ray Lujan on "2/19" and the "Date Out" was recorded as "2-20". [OCA Bill Analysis/House Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session]

Lujan Was Responsible For Legislative Analysis For "Create Office Of Public Facilitation" In 2003. According to a hand-written form titled "OCA Bill

Analysis/Senate Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session" the bill S 288, "Create Office Of Public Facilitation," was assigned to Ben Ray Lujan on "1/29" and the "Date Out" was recorded as "1-30". [OCA Bill Analysis/Senate Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session]

Lujan Was Responsible For Legislative Analysis For "Capital Building Planning Comm. Members" In 2003. According to a hand-written form titled "OCA Bill Analysis/Senate Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session" the bill SB 689, "Capital Building Planning Comm. Members," was assigned to Ben Ray Lujan on "2/20" and the "Date Out" field was left blank. [OCA Bill Analysis/Senate Bills 2003 NM Legislative Session]

Personnel Records

Lujan Began Work At The NM Department Of Cultural Affairs In January 2003. According to a letter from the Secretary of Cultural Affairs, to Ben Ray Lujan, dated January 10, 2003, "This correspondence confirms your appointment as OCA's Administrative Services Division Director." A document entitled "Personnel Action Form" noted that Lujan's "Agency Hire Date" was "01/04/2003" and that the "Action" described in the form was a "Job Assignment Change." [Letter from Ruben A. Smith, 01/10/03; Personnel Action Form, 07/03/04]

> **The "Job Assignment Change" Was Likely Lujan's Transfer From The State Treasurer's Office.** According to a letter from Ben Ray Lujan, to Treasurer Michael Montoya, dated December 16, 2002, "This will confirm my resignation as Deputy State Treasurer effective December 31, 2002." [Letter from Ben Ray Lujan, 12/16/02]

Lujan Earned $69,000 Annually At The Department Of Cultural Affairs. In a document entitled "Personnel Action Form," furnished by the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, it was noted that Lujan's "Annualized Salary" was "$69,001.70" as of January 4, 2003. [Personnel Action Form, 07/03/04]

Lujan's Social Security Number Was Likely Revealed To Anyone Requesting His Personnel Files From DCA. In a document entitled "Personnel Action Form," furnished by the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, the department made an attempt to obliterate or otherwise redact Ben Ray Lujan's "Employee ID" from the form. The number is nine digits long. [Personnel Action Form, 07/03/04]

***NOTE**: The number on the form matches the first five SSN associated with Ben Ray Lujan in at least one entry returned by a "Locate a Person" search in LexisNexis.*

Lujan Began Working For NM State Executive Agencies In April 2002. In a document entitled "Personnel Action Form," furnished by the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, it was noted that Lujan's "Employment Date" was "04/25/2002" and that the "Action" described in the form was "Initial Employment." [Personnel Action Form, 07/03/04]

Lujan Informed The Governor's COS That He Intended To Seek Elected Office In March 2004. According to a letter from Ben Ray Lujan, to "Mr. Dave Contarino, Chief of Staff Office of the Governor," dated March 15, 2004, "This is to inform you of my decision to run for political office. I will be filing to run for the position of Public Regulation Commissioner District 3." [Letter from Ben Ray Lujan, 03/15/04]

Lujan Certified That His Position Was Not Covered By The Hatch Act In March 2004. According to a letter from Ben Ray Lujan, to "Mr. Dave Contarino, Chief of Staff Office of the Governor," dated March 15, 2004, "I am respectfully submitting my certification of determination that my position is not covered by the Hatch Act. The Hatch Act apples to executive branch state and local employees who are principally employed in connection with programs financed in whole or in part by loans or grants made by the United States or a federal agency. The Administrative Services Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs receives no federal funding." [Letter from Ben Ray Lujan, 03/15/04]

Lujan Took A Partial Leave Of Absence From DCA To Campaign In 2004, Kept His State Benefits. According to a letter from "Stuart A. Ashman, to "Mr. Dave Contarino, Chief of Staff Office of the Governor," dated March 29, 2004, "I spoke to my HR Director, Ms. Lois Mee, and she informed me that Mr. Ben Ray Lujan visited with her today to inform her of the approval from office with regard to his request for a partial leave of absence. She said that Mr. Lujan intends to work ten (10) hours each Wednesday, take seven (7) hours of annual leave every other week, and fill the rest of each pay period in with fifty-three (53) hours of leave without pay, to total eighty (80) hours. This will give him the requisite 27 hours of leave/work combination to cover the continuation of his benefits." [Letter from Stuart A. Ashman, 03/15/04]

State Treasurer's Office

Luján Served As Deputy Treasurer Under Treasurer Later Imprisoned For Kickback Scheme. "Lujan served as deputy treasurer under Michael Montoya but wasn't implicated in the kickback scandal that led to prison time for Montoya and his successor, state Treasurer Robert Vigil." [Associated Press, 10/20/08]

Headline: Associated Press: "Miller questions Lujan on corruption." [Associated Press, 10/20/08]

PRC

Las Cruces Sun-News: "The PRC Has Always Had Its Share Of Controversies And Scandals, But None Touched Lujan." "A graduate of Highlands University after having earlier left UNM, the young Lujan was elevated to chairman soon after being elected to the PRC. The PRC has always had its share of controversies and scandals, but none touched Lujan. And so, when Tom Udall gave up his House seat in 2008 to run for the Senate seat being vacated by Pete Domenici, the timing was perfect for Lujan, who was just completing his first term on the PRC." [Las Cruces Sun-News, 11/22/14]

Reporter Filed Complaint With Attorney General Alleging PRC Denied Request To View Luján's Emails Because Older Emails Had Been Deleted. "State law contains no recourse for people who ask to inspect state officials' public e-mails and find they've been deleted, an assistant attorney general says. The opinion earlier this month responded to a Feb. 1 complaint by a reporter who said the state Public Regulation Commission denied him the chance to inspect Commissioner Ben Ray Lujan's e-mails because e-mails before last September had been destroyed. The opinion said the PRC did not deny the reporter's request to inspect Lujan's e-mails since it gave him all e-mails it had from Lujan. The Inspection of Public Records Act sets remedies for when a public body violates the law, but does not address the PRC's failure to keep public records in accordance with state

regulations, Sally Malave wrote in the opinion to David Collins, a reporter for The Santa Fe New Mexican." [Associated Press, 5/29/08]

Independent Candidate Criticized Luján For Corruption Issues At PRC & State Treasurer's Office. "Miller asked Lujan about corruption at the state Treasurer's Office and the Public Regulation Commission during his tenure at those agencies and whether he had 'missed' the misdeeds. Lujan said that, at the PRC, he had adopted a national code of conduct and that there's a new state insurance superintendent since a deputy superintendent was charged and convicted of public corruption. But Miller countered that 'it was the media' and federal authorities that brought up the problems at the two agencies, 'not anyone inside.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 10/20/08]

> **Headline: Associated Press: "Miller questions Lujan on corruption."** [Associated Press, 10/20/08]

Democratic Opponent Attacked Luján For Taxpayer Funded Trips On PRC. "Wiviott's new TV spot follows an initial commercial released last week that criticized Lujan. In the new ad, the announcer says over footage of sandy beaches and Reno casinos, 'Lujan used our money to fly to Miami, a pattern of taxpayerfunded trips from Reno to San Diego on top of his $90,000 salary.' A Lujan spokesman said the three trips mentioned in the ad were work-related: two were training for regulatory commissioners and the third was the annual meeting of the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/28/08]

Attendance

Primary Opponent Slammed Luján For Missing 13 Out Of 14 Meetings Of Committee Dedicated To Computer Technology In Medical Care. "Wiviott also has attacked Luján for missing 13 of 14 meetings of the appointed, unpaid 25-member state Telehealth and Health Information Technology Commission, which works on using computer technology in health care. Luján's camp said Monday that Luján's PRC obligations forced him to miss many of the Telehealth Commission meetings. But Wiviott's campaign said that a crosscheck of minutes of PRC and Telehealth Commission meetings shows that Luján had only three PRC meetings on the same days the health group met." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/21/08]

> **Luján Had 97% Attendance Rate At PRC Meetings.** "Luján counters by touting his 97 percent attendance at PRC meetings. He and Marks have a competition to see who can attend the most meetings. 'Jason has me beat by threetenths of a percent now,' Luján joked." [Albuquerque Journal, 6/1/08]

Health Insurance

State Of New Mexico Began Gathering Health Insurance Claim Denial Data After Inquiry From Luján. "The state began collecting appeals data after then-state Public Regulation Commission Chairman Ben Ray Luján of Santa Fe inquired about denial rates. Luján, now a congressman, told the Journal recently that he began to focus on denials after a chance meeting with a northern New Mexico couple he hadn't seen in years. The woman had learned she had a problem with infertility, which wasn't covered under her health insurance policy. 'They (her doctors) said, 'We've been treating you for the last couple of years for endometriosis, and infertility is one of the problems associated with endometriosis.' Therefore, he said, the insurance company wanted to bill her for the past treatment she received for endometriosis. They (the couple) told me they were starting to

get letters from the collection agency and worried they would have to sell their house (to pay the bill),' Luján said. 'So we gave it to the Consumer Complaints Division (of the PRC), they looked at it, and, lo and behold, the insurance company was wrong, and so that decision was overturned.' That case led Luján to wonder 'how many other people out there have their claims denied and don't know they can come to the PRC for help ... because they're scared to rock the boat. They don't want them (insurance companies) canceling them.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 9/6/09]

> **State Lawmaker Called Luján "Instrumental" In Shepherding Legislation To Close Health Insurance Coverage Loopholes.** "In June 2007, state Sen. Dede Feldman, D-Albuquerque, asked for a meeting with PRC members and staff with a general idea of how the division could do more to regulate the insurance industry. Feldman said in a recent interview that she was pleasantly surprised when it became clear at the meeting that Luján, Marks and Chavez had already done their homework about what could be done to close loopholes in health insurance coverage. The result was one of the only health care reform bills that made it through the 2008 legislative session. 'They were very instrumental in writing that bill,' said Feldman, calling the legislation the PRC's idea." [Albuquerque Journal, 6/1/08]

Ibarra Lawsuit

Former Transportation Compliance Officer Sued Luján, Two Other Commissioners, Alleging He Was Fired For Recommending Investigation Into Bribe Solicitation. "An aspiring limousine operator, seeking an operating license from the state Public Regulation Commission, said he was told it was impossible without paying $5,000 to $10,000 'to grease the wheels.' Charles Zurek III of Las Cruces said he never paid any money and ultimately was awarded certification by the state. He made his comments in sworn testimony last summer in a federal civil rights lawsuit filed by a former PRC supervisor. Albert Ibarra, a former transportation compliance bureau chief, claims he was fired after pushing his bosses for an investigation into the reported shakedown, according to a copyright story published Sunday in the Albuquerque Journal. He says in his lawsuit he was wrongfully fired in 2005 in part for speaking out about illegal, improper or unethical conduct within the agency. . . . Ibarra named three commissioners as defendants: Jason Marks, E. Shirley Baca and chairman Ben Ray Lujan. He did not sue commissioners Lovejoy or David King." [Associated Press, 12/4/06]

> **Headline: Albuquerque Journal: "Suit Probes Alleged PRC Shakedown: Witness: Money Could 'Grease the Wheels.'"** [Albuquerque Journal, 12/3/06]
>
> **PRC Officials: Ibarra Was Fired Because He Was A Poor Manager & Supervisor.** "PRC officials said in depositions that the Zurek case had nothing to do with Ibarra's firing and that Ibarra was a poor manager who couldn't adequately supervise." [Associated Press, 12/4/06]

Ibarra Claimed He Asked Luján For Help In Preventing Retaliation After Requesting Bribe Investigation & Luján Never Responded. "In reporting the bribery allegation, Ibarra stated he was concerned about retaliation against him. The lawsuit states Ibarra wrote to Lujan, chairman of the PRC, and asked for help preventing retaliation against him but Lujan never responded. An attempt to reach Lujan for comment Tuesday was unsuccessful." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 9/14/05]

Ibarra Claimed Luján & Other Commissioners Intended To Get Rid Of Him Due To His Association With Republican Commissioner. "Ibarra served as executive assistant

to former Commissioner Herb Hughes, a Republican, before Ibarra moved to the Transportation Division in May 2004. Following the November 2004 election, Ibarra heard that incoming Democratic commissioners Lujan and Marks together with incumbent Baca, also a Democrat, intended to get rid of him because of his earlier association with Hughes." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 9/14/05]

PRC Settled Case For Undisclosed Amount. "The PRC settled the lawsuit in October. The amount Ibarra will receive is confidential by law for six months. His attorney, Edward Hollington of Albuquerque, said last week, 'We are pleased with the outcome.'" [Associated Press, 12/4/06]

Jerome Block Jr.

2008 Luján Campaign Initially Stood By Democratic PRC Nominee Jerome Block Jr. In Wake Of Previously Undisclosed Arrest Record. "After the first story broke about Block's previously undisclosed arrest for riding with an intoxicated driver and citation for urinating in public [Outtakes, June 25: 'Failure to Appear'], Luján's campaign stood by Block, telling the New Mexico Independent: 'Ben Ray Luján supports a strong Democratic ticket with candidates that will stand up for New Mexico and that includes Jerome Block Jr.' Indeed, earlier in the general election cycle, Luján and Block appeared at joint campaign events. Now, however, Luján's campaign says it has not endorsed and has no plans to endorse in the PRC race." [Santa Fe Reporter, 9/17/08-9/23/08]

2009: Luján Declined To Call For Indicted PRC Commissioner To Resign. "Gov. Bill Richardson said Thursday he's not planning on meeting with embattled Public Regulation Commissioner Jerome Block Jr., who was indicted Wednesday on eight felony charges. . . . Lujan's son, U.S. Congressman Ben Ray Luján, had previously held the seat that Block Jr. captured by winning a sixway Democratic primary and defeating Green Party candidate Rick Lass in the November general election. Asked if Block should resign, Ben Ray Luján said in an interview Thursday 'these are decisions he's gonna have to make.' Ben Ray Luján said Block's legal troubles could impact his work at the PRC. 'Anytime there's a distraction, it's challenging,' he said." [Albuquerque Journal, 4/10/09]

Serna

State Insurance Superintendent Resigned Following Internal PRC Review & AG Investigation Into Favoritism, Conflict Of Interest. "Larger problems soon arrived at the PRC. In 2006, state insurance superintendent Eric Serna faced accusations of favoritism and conflict of interest involving his leadership of a nonprofit foundation that collected donations from businesses Serna regulated or hired as superintendent. Serna eventually agreed to leave amid an internal PRC inquiry and state Attorney General's investigation." [Albuquerque Journal, 6/1/08]

Sexual Harassment Lawsuit

Jury Awarded More Than $840,000 In Damages To Former PRC Employee In Sexual Harassment Suit. "A Santa Fe jury deliberated for more than three hours Monday before determining that King had sexually harassed his former assistant, Wyla Green. Jurors also found that King, the PRC and former PRC chief of staff Patrick Baca retaliated against Green after she came forward. Green was awarded more than $840,000 in damages." [Associated Press, 12/1/07]

Op-Ed Slammed Luján For Response To Sexual Harassment Lawsuit Brought By Former PRC Employee Against Commissioner David King. "After much deliberation and soul searching I feel, as a woman, I need to speak out. What I am talking about is the PRC's response to Public Regulation Commissioner David King's verdict in the sexual harassment suit brought against him by former PRC employee Wyle Green. . . . I find Chairman Ben Ray Lujan's statements ludicrous. Although he and the other commissioners condemned King's conduct, they said it would be King's decision if he wanted to remain a commissioner. Lujan also stated they asked King if this sexual harassment suit would affect his ability to serve his constituents. Maybe I misunderstood. Is King the victim here? The accused harasser gets to decide if he should stay in his elected position? Is the fox watching the hen house? . . . I have always had the utmost respect for Chairman Lujan, but I do not understand the position the commission has taken. Anyone harassed in the workplace, but especially women, need to educate themselves extensively as to the law and sometimes, the unexpected outcome." [Stephanie L. DuBois, Alamogordo Daily News, 12/8/07]

Luján: Up To King To Decide Whether He Should Resign After Court Determined He Had Sexually Harassed Employee. "The state Public Regulation Commission on Friday asked Commissioner David King to consider how a recent judgment against him in a sexual harassment case affects his ability to serve his constituents. PRC Chairman Ben Ray Lujan said that while the commission condemns King's conduct, only King can decide whether he should remain a commissioner. 'It would be up to him to make a decision,' Lujan said. 'The commission does not have the authority to remove anyone.'" [Associated Press, 12/1/07]

Luján Issued Statement On PRC Implementation Of Sexual Harassment Training, Code Of Conduct. "Lujan said the PRC issued a statement in response to the verdict because it wanted its employees and the citizens of New Mexico to know that the commission has taken steps to avoid harassment in the workplace. Sexual harassment training is mandatory for PRC staff and commissioners must follow a code of conduct. 'As chairman of the commission, I thought that it was important for employees to know that we want to create a safe work environment for them,' Lujan said. 'It's important especially for women in the workplace to know they will be treated fairly.'" [Associated Press, 12/1/07]

<u>Title Insurance Rate Case Recusal</u>

Luján Faced Criticism For Accepting Meeting With Title Company Co-Owner, Bowed Out Of Company's Appeal Process Due To Controversy. "On the stump, Luján has also touted his efforts towards title insurance reform. But Luján took flack for a September 2006 meeting he had with Dave Contarino, who co-owns a title company and has worked as Richardson's presidential campaign manager and chief of staff. As a result of the meeting, Luján last year bowed out of an appeal over lowering title insurance rates. Luján has denied that there was anything inappropriate about the meeting and has said that the title insurance industry was trying to get him to recuse himself from the appeal because he had spoken out about the need for reform." [Albuquerque Journal, 6/1/08]

> **Company Co-Owner Contributed $2300 To Luján Congressional Campaign.** "Contarino, who is now consulting for a company seeking to renew a state contract worth more than $300 million a year, on Wednesday gave $2,300 to Luján's campaign." [Albuquerque Journal, 6/1/08]

Headline: Associated Press: "PRC chairman to stay out of appeal in insurance case." [Associated Press, 11/2/07]

Title Association Asked For Luján Recusal – Luján Suggested Association Sought His Removal Due To His Support For Title Insurance Reform. "The New Mexico Land Title Association, which represents insurance agents and underwriters, and the PRC staff had requested Lujan's recusal. Lujan has said he believes the title insurance industry wanted him removed because he has talked about the need for title insurance reform. 'I look forward to going up against the title insurance lobby in the next legislative session,' said Lujan, who has said he'll ask Richardson to put title insurance reform on the Legislature's agenda in January." [Associated Press, 11/2/07]

House Record

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Luján has had four sponsored bills pass the House and no sponsored bills signed by the President*
- ✓ *Luján rented district office space from Sonny Otero, a major political donor and developer who made millions from a land deal brokered by Gov. Richardson*
- ✓ *The Tucumcari Chamber of Commerce donates district office space to Luján for $1 per year*
- ✓ *Since 2009, Luján has paid hundreds of thousands of dollars in taxpayer-funded bonuses to staff*
- ✓ *Women earned more on average than men in Luján's office*

Luján Has Missed 1.5% Of Roll Call Votes. "From Jan 2009 to Dec 2015, Luján missed 75 of 5,150 roll call votes, which is 1.5%. This is better than the median of 2.2% among the lifetime records of representatives currently serving. ProPublica has tracked 23 explanations for these missed votes." [GovTrack, accessed 12/10/15]

Luján Has Had Four Sponsored Bills Pass The House Of Representatives. None of his sponsored bills have been enacted by the president.

H.R. 1556 (112th): To amend the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act to allow certain land to be used to generate income to provide funding for academic programs, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Rep. Ben Luján [D-NM3]
Introduced: Apr 14, 2011
Passed House: Jun 18, 2012
H.R. 3254 (111th): Taos Pueblo Indian Water Rights Settlement Act
Sponsor: Rep. Ben Luján [D-NM3]
Introduced: Jul 17, 2009
Passed House: Jan 21, 2010
H.R. 3342 (111th): Aamodt Litigation Settlement Act
Sponsor: Rep. Ben Luján [D-NM3]
Introduced: Jul 24, 2009
Passed House: Jan 21, 2010
H.R. 2729 (111th): To authorize the designation of National Environmental Research Parks by the Secretary of Energy, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Rep. Ben Luján [D-NM3]
Introduced: Jun 4, 2009
Passed House: Jul 21, 2009

[GovTrack, accessed 12/10/15]

House Office Expenditures

Rep. Luján House Office Expenditures By Category, Q2 2009-2014:

Category	Amount
Equipment	$116,959.71
Franked Mail	$232,363.95
Other Services	$265,633.45
Personnel	$5,631,072.22
Printing	$253,545.59
Rent, Etc.	$459,349.24
Supplies	$131,298.66
Travel	$556,996.89
TOTAL	**$7,647,219.71**

[House Office Expenditures – Ben Ray Luján, 2009-2014]

Sonny Otero & District Office Rental

Luján's Office Paid More Than $75K In Rent To Sonny Otero For District Office:

Quarter	Category	Payee	Start Date	End Date	Purpose	Amount
2009Q3	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	7/1/09	7/31/09	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2009Q3	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	8/1/09	8/31/09	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2009Q3	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	9/1/09	9/30/09	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2009Q4	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	10/1/09	10/31/09	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2009Q4	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	11/1/09	11/30/09	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2009Q4	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	12/1/09	12/31/09	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2010Q1	Rent, Communication,	Sonny Otero	1/1/10	1/31/10	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295

	Utilities					
2010Q1	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	2/1/10	2/28/10	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2010Q1	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	3/1/10	3/31/10	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2010Q2	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	4/1/10	4/30/10	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2010Q2	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	5/1/10	5/31/10	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2010Q2	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	6/1/10	6/30/10	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2010Q3	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	7/1/10	7/31/10	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2010Q3	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	8/1/10	8/31/10	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2010Q3	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	9/1/10	9/30/10	District Office Rent - Private	$3,295
2010Q4	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	10/1/10	10/31/10	District Office Rent (Private)	$3,295
2010Q4	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	11/1/10	11/30/10	District Office Rent (Private)	$3,295
2010Q4	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	12/1/10	12/31/10	District Office Rent (Private)	$3,295
2011Q1	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	1/3/11	2/2/11	District Office Rent (Private)	$3,295
2011Q1	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	2/3/11	3/2/11	District Office Rent (Private)	$3,295
2011Q1	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	3/3/11	4/2/11	District Office Rent (Private)	$3,295
2011Q2	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	4/3/11	5/2/11	District Office Rent (Private)	$3,295
2011Q2	Rent, Communication, Utilities	Sonny Otero	5/3/11	6/2/11	District Office Rent (Private)	$3,295
TOTAL						**$75,785**

[House Office Expenditures – Ben Ray Luján, 2009-2014]

Luján Spokeswoman: District Office Space Rented From Otero Previously Used By Rep. Tom Udall – Kept "For Both Continuity And Convenience." "One name in Luján's expense records caught my eye. Santa Fe contractor Sonny Otero is paid $3,295 a month for rent of Luján's Santa Fe district office on St. Michael's Drive. . . . The space was previously used by former Rep. Tom Udall, who moved into former Sen. Pete Domenici's old office downtown after being elected to the Senate. When Udall first began renting the St. Michael's Drive office about 10 years ago, it was owned by the Molnar family, a spokeswoman said. Otero bought it later. A spokesman for Udall said Wednesday that Luján set up shop in several of Udall's old district offices "for both continuity and convenience for his constituents" and to save time and money." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 12/3/09]

Oteros Contributed $5,850 To Luján's 2008 Campaign. "He's also contributed some money to Luján. Otero and his wife gave Luján's 2008 campaign a total of $5,850." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 12/3/09]

Gov. Richardson Scrutinized After Signing Bill To Allow State To Purchase Land From Major Donor, Sonny Otero. "Before the sale could go through, the Legislature had to amend a land-acquisition bill to enable the purchase of the Otero parcel, and Mr. Richardson signed the bill. Two months after the sale, Mr. Otero made a $50,000 donation to Mr. Richardson's re-election campaign, part of the $86,000 he has given the governor since 2002." [New York Times, 1/11/09]

> **Otero Made $3.2 Million From Sale Of Land To State.** "Another big Richardson supporter, Sonny Otero, a contractor, made a hefty profit in 2006 when the state bought 12 acres of vacant land from him in Santa Fe, paying $3.2 million more than his family's business paid for it two years earlier." [New York Times, 1/11/09]

New Mexico Finance Authority Rented Office Space From Otero For $26K/Month. "Since March 2005, Sonny Otero and his wife, Lorraine Otero, have leased the three-story building at 207 Shelby St., between Alameda and Water streets, to NMFA. The lease started out at $18,750 a month for about 12,500 square feet of office space. That figure included utilities and downtown parking spaces for the agency's 36 or so employees. A few months later, NMFA exercised its right of first refusal and leased an additional 2,500 square feet in the building, bringing the monthly rent up to $22,500. That figure also included utilities and parking. The rent went up again last year. In May 2008, the monthly rent increased to $26,000. The extra money, according to an amendment to the lease contract, was 'to cover extraordinary utility costs, insurance, taxes and parking fees.'" [Santa Fe New Mexican, 6/4/09]

> **NMFA Implicated In Investigation On State Investment Contract With Firm That Was Major Richardson Donor.** "Now The Santa Fe New Mexican is reporting on another deal Otero has with a state agency. He's currently making $26,000 a month as landlord for the New Mexico Finance Authority, an agency that is tied up in the investigation into allegations that CDR Financial Products received a state investment contract that paid almost $1.5 million in exchange for $110,000 in contributions to two Richardson political committees and his 2006 gubernatorial re-election campaign." [NMPolitics.net, 6/4/09]

Tucumcari Chamber Of Commerce

Tucumcari Chamber Of Commerce Donates Office Space For Luján Field Office For $1/Year. "The commission also renewed the city's five-year lease agreement with

Versa Tech Industries, a paving contractor, and the Tucumcari Chamber of Commerce's $1-per-year sub-lease of office space to U. S. Rep. Ben Ray Lujan. The office houses Lujan's field representative Ron Wilmot. . . . Patsy Gresham, executive director of the Tucumcari Chamber of Commerce, requested the continuation of the sublease for Rep. Lujan's office space. The chamber leases space from the city for its headquarters at Fifth Street and Route 66 Boulevard, and the chamber essentially donates the office for Rep. Lujan. 2014 Global Data Point." [Energy Monitor Worldwide, 1/14/15]

House Office Travel Records

Rep. Luján House Office Expenditures On Travel, Q2 2009-2014:

Purpose	**Amount**
Car Rental	$102,251.36
Commercial Transportation	$36,355.87
Gasoline	$13,960.47
Lodging	$40,976.67
Meals	$20,895.35
Private Auto Mileage	$98,724.17
Taxi Parking Tolls	$2,540.01
Travel Reimbursement	$50,653.01
Travel Subsistence	$190,639.98
Total	**$556,996.89**

[House Office Expenditures – Ben Ray Luján, 2009-2014]

Franked Mail

Luján Spent $361K On Mass Mailings & Communications From July 2009-December 2014.
NOTE: Prior to the second quarter of 2011, mass communications and mailings were aggregated into one spending category.

Year	**Mailings**	**Communications**	**Total**
2009	$98,181.00		$98,181.00
2010	$122,566.34		$122,566.34
2011	$100,510.40		$100,510.40
2012	$29,746.60	$5,649.88	$35,396.48
2013	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00

2014	$0.00	$4,690.54	$4,690.54
TOTAL			**$361,344.76**

[House Office Expenditures – Ben Ray Luján, 2009-2014]

2010: House Members Spent Average Of $104,000 On Mass Mailings. "In 2010, House members spent an average of just under $104,000 on mass mailings, but there was a broad range spent, which correlates with a member's election outcome." [U.S. News & World Report, 4/8/11]

2014, Q3: 285 Lawmakers Sent No Franked Mail, 197 Sent No Mass Communications. "Not every member of the House uses the frank: 285 lawmakers sent no franked mail in the third quarter of 2014, according to official reports; a separate 197 didn't send any mass communications of any kind." [New York Times, 1/28/15]

Staff Salaries & Bonuses

July 2009-December 2014: Luján Office Spent $5.6 Million On Staff Compensation. Since July 2009, the Luján office has spent $5,631,072 on staff compensation. [House Office Expenditures – Ben Ray Luján, 2009-2014]

Luján Paid Hundreds Of Thousands Of Dollars In Taxpayer-Funded Bonuses To Staff:

Name	Title	Year	Amount
Jeffery Bustamante	Dist Scheduler/Constit Liaison	2013	$1,000
Jeffery Bustamante	Dist Scheduler/Constit Liaison	2014	$2,667
Jennifer Conn-Catechis	District Director-New Mexico	2009	$4,480
Jennifer Conn-Catechis	District Director-New Mexico	2010	$5,500
Jennifer Conn-Catechis	District Director-New Mexico	2011	$4,500
Jennifer Conn-Catechis	District Director-New Mexico	2012	$3,552
Patrick Duran	Field Representative	2009	$2,100
Patrick Duran	Field Representative	2010	$6,000
Patrick Duran	Field Representative	2011	$4,000
Patrick Duran	Field Representative	2012	$6,320
Pamela Garcia	Las Vegas NM Field Rep	2009	$1,800
Pamela Garcia	Las Vegas NM Field Rep	2010	$7,000
Pamela Garcia	Constituent Liaison Manager	2012	$10,800
Paul Garcia	Scheduler/Exec Asst	2009	$2,750
Paul Garcia	Scheduler/Exec Asst	2010	$5,750
Paul Garcia	Scheduler/Exec Asst	2011	$4,500
Paul Garcia	Scheduler/Exec Asst	2012	$8,250
Jennifer Herrera	Field Representative	2010	$7,007
Jennifer Herrera	Field Representative	2011	$4,500

Jennifer Herrera	Field Representative	2012	$6,820
Andrew Jones	Legislative Director	2009	$4,200
Andrew Jones	Legislative Director	2010	$5,500
Andrew Jones	Legislative Director	2011	$3,000
Brian Lee	Constituent Liaison	2012	$6,300
Christopher Neubauer	New Mexico State Deputy Director	2010	$7,000
Angela Ramirez	Chief of Staff	2010	$5,500
Angela Ramirez	Chief of Staff	2011	$2,667
Angela Ramirez	Chief of Staff	2012	$1,700
Matthew Ruybal	Constituent Liaison/IT Admin	2011	$4,500
Matthew Ruybal	Constituent Liaison/IT Admin	2012	$10,450
Scott Stockwell	Legislative Correspondent	2011	$6,000
Scott Stockwell	Legislative Aide/Legis Corresp	2012	$7,900
Andrew Stoddard	Communications Director	2011	$5,000
Shiloh Taylor	Part-Time Employee	2010	$5,500
Shiloh Taylor	Part-Time Employee	2011	$4,100
Shiloh Taylor	Part-Time Employee	2012	$5,500
Peter Valencia Jr.	Field Rep./Farmington Ofc., NM	2009	$2,100
Peter Valencia Jr.	Field Rep./Farmington Ofc., NM	2010	$6,000
Peter Valencia Jr.	Field Rep./Farmington Ofc., NM	2011	$5,000
Peter Valencia Jr.	Field Rep./Farmington Ofc., NM	2012	$5,620
Ronald Wilmot	Tucumcari Field Rep.	2009	$2,220
Ronald Wilmot	Tucumcari Field Rep.	2010	$5,500
Ronald Wilmot	Tucumcari Field Rep.	2011	$4,500
Ronald Wilmot	Tucumcari Field Rep.	2012	$5,500

Methodology: This is not a comprehensive list of bonuses (or potential bonuses). We compared Q4 compensation to Q1 of the subsequent year to arrive at the bonus total. Some of these include “other compensation” attributed to Q4 as well. Bonuses were not included if there was an accompanying title change or for individuals employed for less than a year.

Staff – Gender Gap

Overall Salaries By Pay Period In Luján Office: $9,097. According to disbursements data from the House of Representatives, Luján’s office spent a total of $5,631,072.22 on payroll expenses from July 1, 2009 to December 31, 2014. When divided by pay period, this averages to $9,097.05 per pay period. [Sunlight Foundation, accessed 4/13/15]

Women Earned Average Of $9,475 Per Pay Period Compared To Men’s Average Of $8,818. According to disbursements data from the House of Representatives, women in Luján’s office earned an average of $9,474.84 per pay period as compared to their male counterparts, who earned an average of $8,817.95 per pay period. [Sunlight Foundation, accessed 4/13/15]

Luján Hired Women For Senior Staff Positions, Including Chief Of Staff & District Director. Luján hired women for senior staff positions in his official office, including chief of staff Angela Ramirez and district director Jennifer Conn-Catechis. Both Ramirez and Conn-Catechis have held these positions since at least July 2009. [Sunlight Foundation, accessed 4/13/15]

Travel

Foreign Travel

Luján Reported One Official Foreign Trip To Turkey, Afghanistan, Qatar, Kuwait, Iraq & Germany. Luján spent a total of $1,404 in per diem (meals and lodging) on the trip. Transportation was on military aircraft:

Arrival	Departure	Country	Per Diem	Transportation
8/4/2009	8/5/2009	Turkey	$300.00	military air transportation
8/5/2009	8/6/2009	Afghanistan	$26.00	military air transportation
8/6/2009	8/7/2009	Qatar	$341.00	military air transportation
8/7/2009	8/8/2009	Kuwait	$416.00	military air transportation
8/8/2009	8/9/2009	Iraq	$11.00	military air transportation
8/9/2009	8/10/2009	Germany	$310.00	military air transportation
TOTAL			**$1,404.00**	

[U.S. House of Representatives – Expenditure Reports Concerning Official Foreign Travel, filed 7/1/11]

Luján Met With New Mexicans Serving While In Iraq & Afghanistan. "Rep. Ben Ray Luján has recently returned from a bipartisan Congressional Delegation visit to Iraq and Afghanistan. Rep. Luján met with members of the New Mexico National Guard and officials in the regions to discuss the situation on the ground. 'New Mexicans are serving bravely and honorably in Iraq and Afghanistan. It was my privilege to meet with them and thank them for their service and sacrifice,' said Rep. Luján. . . . The eight day bipartisan Congressional Delegation visit allowed Rep. Luján to visit with top United States, Iraqi and Afghan officials. Rep. Luján participated in the bipartisan Congressional Delegation visit through the House Armed Service Committee." [Luján press release, 8/14/09]

Privately Funded Staff Travel

Name	Destination	Dates	Sponsor	Cost
Angela Ramirez	Tel Aviv, Israel	2/19/2011 - 2/27/2011	American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)	$6,504.47
Scott Stockwell	El Carmen, Guatemala	2/15/2015 - 2/22/2015	International Committee of the Red Cross	$3,450.70

Scott Stockwell	Mexico City, Mexico	2/15/2015 - 2/22/2015	International Committee of the Red Cross	same trip
Scott Stockwell	Nogales, Mexico	2/15/2015 - 2/22/2015	International Committee of the Red Cross	same trip
Scott Stockwell	Tapachula, Mexico	2/15/2015 - 2/22/2015	International Committee of the Red Cross	same trip
Angela Ramirez	San Francisco, CA	6/3/2014 - 6/5/2014	The Internet Association	$916.28
Andrew Jones	Las Vegas, NV	1/7/2014 - 1/9/2014	Consumer Electronics Association	$1,822.36

[U.S. House of Representatives – Office of the Clerk – Gift and Travel Filings, accessed 3/23/15]

Luján Chief Of Staff Angela Ramirez Stayed At Five-Star Luxury Hotel In Jerusalem. "Idyllically set overlooking Jerusalem's Liberty Bell Park and the Old City, the Inbal Jerusalem Hotel is one of the finest and most luxurious Jerusalem hotels. Combining a sophisticated elegance with warmth and comfort, the Inbal offers a range of suites to match every kind of visit – from family vacations to large conferences and weddings." [Inbal Hotel, accessed 3/23/15; U.S. House of Representatives – Gift and Travel Filings, filed 3/11/11]

> **Inbal Hotel Charged $300/Night.** According to the ethics disclosure, the Inbal Hotel charged $300/night. [U.S. House of Representatives – Gift and Travel Filings, filed 3/11/11]
>
> *NOTE: Rep. Kevin McCarthy's chief of staff was invited, as well as other members' senior staffers.*

Luján Legislative Director Andrew Jones Stayed At Luxury Las Vegas Resort. "The Four-Star Encore at Wynn Las Vegas delivers the same exceptional service and class as its flagship property, Wynn Las Vegas, but with a boutique vibe. The casual elegance of the décor is both playful and intimate, from the vibrant red chandeliers in the casino to the alluring golden buddha in the spa to the signature butterfly motif fluttering throughout the property (said to portend good luck). Guest suites are awash in neutrals, reds and blacks, and have floor-to-ceiling windows with views of the Strip, swiveling flat-screen TVs and limestone and marble baths. With five restaurants onsite, your taste buds will want for nothing. An evening at Sinatra will have you crooning between bites of house-made pasta, while Botero is sure to have you seeing food as a higher art form. The spa gets top billing in Las Vegas with 37 treatment rooms in which to enjoy a transformation ritual or fusion massage. And if the tables have been good to you, leaving you money to burn, book a VIP table at XS, one of Vegas' hottest nightclubs, where a wading pool and a ten-foot rotating chandelier over the dance floor are just part of the experience." [Forbes Travel Guide, accessed 3/23/15; U.S. House of Representatives – Gift and Travel Filings, filed 1/17/14]

> **Encore At Wynn Las Vegas Charged $335/Night.** According to the ethics disclosure, the Encore at the Wynn Las Vegas charged $299/night plus 12% tax. [U.S. House of Representatives – Gift and Travel Filings, filed 1/17/14]

NOTE: Numerous Republican staffers invited, including from House Majority Leader's and Whip's office.

Agriculture & Land Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Luján voted against barring farm bill payments to entities with income above $250,000*
- ✓ *Luján joined the NM delegation in opposing food safety rules that critics claimed favored big agriculture*

Farm Subsidies

Luján Voted Against Barring Farm Bill Payments To Entities With AGI Above $250K. In June 2011, Luján voted against a Flake, R-Ariz., amendment that would bar the use of funds in the bill to pay the salaries and expenses of Agriculture Department personnel to provide certain farm bill payments or benefits to a person or legal entity whose average adjusted gross income exceeds $250,000. The amendment was rejected, 186-228, with 102 Democrats voting yes and 76 voting no. [HR 2112, Vote #455, 6/16/11]

Food Safety

Luján Joined Delegation In Opposing Food Safety Bill That Critics Claimed Favored Big Agriculture. "When the US House of Representatives passed HR 2749 (the Food Safety Enhancement Act of 2009) last week, it did so with the intent of giving teeth to a Food and Drug Administration that has traditionally been all gums when it comes to enforcing food safety. . . . More and better safety, inspection and enforcement policies have been a longtime coming, according to New Mexico farmer Steve Warshawer. But HR 2749 follows a one-size-fits-all theory that heavily favors big agriculture and potentially leaves small, regional food producers struggling to survive. . . . US Sens. Jeff Bingaman and Tom Udall are 'old hands at this,' Warshawer says, and Reps. Ben Ray Lujan, Martin Heinrich and Harry Teague all voted against the bill (and against the Democratic establishment) because they see the downsides for New Mexico farmers and small food processors." [Santa Fe Reporter, 8/5/09-8/11/09]

Luján Voted Against Overhauling Food Safety Laws To Increase Inspections, Punishments For Violators. In July 2009, Luján voted against passage of the bill that would make several changes to food safety laws, including establishing a risk-based inspection schedule for food facilities and imposing criminal and civil penalties for violations. The bill would require facilities that serve U.S. customers to register with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and pay a registration fee. Farms, grocery stores and restaurants would be exempt. The bill would mandate inspections ranging from every six months to every five years, depending on the level of risk at the facility. Individuals who knowingly violate food safety laws could face up to 10 years in prison. The bill also would authorize the FDA to impose mandatory food quarantines and require facilities to implement written food safety plans. The bill passed, 283-142, with 229 Democrats voting yes and 20 voting no. [HR 2749, Vote #680, 7/30/09]

Luján Voted Against Overhauling Food Safety Laws. In July 2009, Luján voted against a Dingell, D-Mich., motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill that would establish a risk-based inspection schedule for food facilities; impose criminal and civil penalties for violating food safety laws; authorize the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to impose mandatory food quarantines; require food facilities to register with the FDA annually and pay a fee; and require facilities to implement written food safety plans. The motion did not receive a two-thirds majority. It failed, 280-150, with 230 Democrats voting yes and 23 voting no. [HR 2749, Vote #657, 7/29/09]

Mineral Royalties

Luján Sponsored Legislation To Allow States To Collect Their Own Mineral Royalties. "U.S. Senators Mike Enzi, R-Wyo., Tom Udall, D-N.M., John Barrasso, R-Wyo., Representatives Cynthia Lummis, R-Wyo., Michelle Lujan Grisham, D-N.M., and Ben Ray Luján, D-N.M., introduced legislation today that would allow states to collect their own mineral royalties, protecting money that is rightfully owed to the states. The bill would effectively eliminate a collection fee charged by the federal government, which amounts to around $40 million per year. . . . 'New Mexico's federal lands are a significant resource that provides important royalties that should be used to strengthen New Mexico,' Rep. Luján said. 'This legislation will ensure that more of the money that is rightfully owed to states will be returned in order to support vital programs and investments that make a difference in our communities. Sending the money directly to the states and not to the federal government first will streamline the process, reduce administrative costs, and allow states to receive more of these critical funds.'" [Enzi press release, 2/13/15]

Budget Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In December 2014, the Albuquerque Journal slammed Luján for opposing the "cromnibus" spending deal, citing the devastating impact of earlier government shutdowns on New Mexico*
- ✓ *In January 2013, Luján voted against a short-term debt limit increase*
- ✓ *In 2009, Luján requested $67 million in earmarks*
- ✓ *Luján supported reinstating pay-as-you-go spending plan*
- ✓ *Luján voted against the Budget Control Act*
- ✓ *Luján voted against piecemeal Republican bills to fund New Mexico's national labs, veterans programs and other important programs during the government shutdown*

FY2013 Appropriations

Luján Voted Against Continuing Appropriations Bill To Fund Government Operations Through FY2013. In March 2013, Luján voted against Rogers, R-Ky., motion to concur in the Senate amendment to the bill that would provide continuing appropriations through fiscal 2013 for government operations, including $1.043 trillion in discretionary funds before sequestration. It would provide $517.7 billion in base discretionary funding for the Defense Department and $71.9 billion for veterans programs and military construction as well as $20.5 billion for agriculture programs, $39.6 billion for the Department of Homeland Security, and $50.2 billion for commerce, law enforcement and science programs. The bill would fund all other departments and agencies at their fiscal 2012 enacted levels, with adjustments for certain programs. The bill passed, 318-109, with 115 Democrats voting yes and 82 voting no. [HR 933, Vote #89, 3/21/13]

Cromnibus

Luján Voted Against Cromnibus Deal, Cited Provisions Rolling Back Wall Street Reform, Undermining Campaign Finance Rules. "A massive spending bill that cleared the Senate late Saturday passed with reluctant support from New Mexico's two Democratic senators who objected to provisions that altered rules for campaign finance and Wall Street banks. . . . 'It is deeply disappointing that Congressional Republicans have used this process to pass damaging provisions that roll back critical Wall Street reforms and further undermine campaign finance rules,' Lujan said. 'In addition, the measure

shortchanges investments in key areas that are critical to our nation's economic competitiveness and New Mexico's future - cutting Pell Grants and providing inadequate investment to clean energy. It also plays games with funding the Department of Homeland Security, which provides critical resources to New Mexico.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 12/14/14]

Albuquerque Journal Editorial Slammed Luján For Opposition To Cromnibus Spending Bill. "And to Reps. Ben Ray Luján and Michelle Lujan Grisham, New Mexicans get that it's larded up with stuff that shouldn't be there. For those like Lujan Grisham who constantly decry 'gridlock' in Washington, that's called 'compromise.' Super conservative Ted Cruz, R-Texas, didn't like it either. New Mexicans have seen the alternative they would face again if Luján and Lujan Grisham had prevailed. In fact they're still recovering from it. USA Today listed New Mexico as the seventh-most affected state by the 2013 shutdown - ranking 'sixth in states with the most federal employees per capita and fourth in states with the most federal contractors.'" [Editorial, Albuquerque Journal, 12/18/14]

> **Albuquerque Journal Editorial Praised Lawmakers For Averting Shutdown.** "At midnight Sept. 30, 2013, the first government shutdown in 17 years kicked in. And it kicked off 16 days of unpaid work for 1.3 million federal workers, furloughs for hundreds of thousands of others, locked doors and gates for government-run facilities, and $2 billion in additional costs for U.S. taxpayers. So everyone - especially in a state like New Mexico that is financially dependent on the feds - should breathe a big sigh of relief that we didn't go there again in 2014. . . . By its sheer size there are undoubtedly pretty smelly things in the Cromnibus, and those can and should be revisited in future cycles. But none stink as badly as paying a government $2 billion to do nothing while workers sit home without paychecks." [Editorial, Albuquerque Journal, 12/18/14]

Debt Ceiling

NRCC Paid For Robocalls Attacking Luján For Voting For To Raise Debt Ceiling. "Residents of the 3rd Congressional District can expect automated calls starting today that bash Rep. Ben Ray Luján, D-N.M., for his Wednesday vote to raise the country's debt ceiling. Luján, along with 96 other Democrats - including New Mexico's other Democratic House member, Rep. Martin Heinrich - voted to raise the federal debt limit by more than $2 trillion to prevent the United States from defaulting on any loans. The robo calls, paid for by the National Republican Congressional Committee, criticize Luján for his vote to raise the debt ceiling without addressing spending reductions. 'The American economy is still in trouble,' the recording says. 'We are drowning in government debt, owed to countries like China. The national debt is now $14 trillion, and Congressman Ben Ray Luján just voted for $2 trillion more debt, without any budget cuts.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 6/3/11]

Luján Voted Against Short-Term Debt Limit Increase In January 2013. In January 2013, Luján voted against passage of the bill that would suspend the limit on government borrowing through May 18, 2013 and then automatically increase the current $16.4 trillion ceiling to accommodate additional debt accumulated through that date. It also would suspend the salary payments to members in either chamber that does not adopt a fiscal 2014 budget resolution by April 15, 2013. Salaries of members of a chamber that do not adopt a budget by that time would be placed into an escrow account and would not be released until the chamber adopted a budget or until the last day of the 113th Congress, in January 2015. The bill was adopted, 285-144, with 86 Democrats voting yes and 111 voting no. [HR 325, Vote #30, 1/23/13]

Earmarks

Luján Requested $67 Million In Earmarks For Local New Mexico Projects. "Freshman U.S. Rep. Ben Ray Luján, D-N.M., is asking for nearly $67 million in 'earmarks' for federal government spending. While that might seem like a huge figure -- especially in a political climate in which the congressional earmark has become something of a dirty word -- spokesmen for national taxpayer watchdog groups say $67 million is actually pretty modest compared to what some members of Congress try to snare for constituents. . . . Luján's requests vary from police radios in Bloomfield ($270,000) to a $3.6 million overpass in Clovis, to rehabilitating 30 low-income houses in Pojoaque Pueblo ($590,000), to a $508,088 appropriation for an electronic records system for Presbyterian Health Services." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 4/12/09]

> **Taxpayers For Common Sense VP: Luján Earmarks Aren't "In The Realm Of The Ridiculous."** "'It isn't in the realm of the ridiculous,' Steve Ellis, vice president of the Washington D.C.-based Taxpayers for Common Sense, said when asked about the sums in Luján's earmarks. 'Some Congressmen requested a billion.'" [Santa Fe New Mexican, 4/12/09]

Murray-Ryan Deal

Luján Voted For Murray-Ryan Compromise Budget. "Congressman Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico's Third District released the following statement today after voting for a compromise budget plan that reduces sequester cuts over the next two years. 'While this budget plan is not perfect, and neither side got everything they would have liked, it represents a compromise that takes important steps to chip away at the devastating cuts of the sequester. It rejects the calls of the extreme Tea Party elements that have demanded even deeper cuts that would harm New Mexico. Already in our state we have seen arbitrary sequester cuts negatively impact our economy and hurt our families. During this past year Head Start centers have shut down, workers were furloughed, and cuts to the national labs rippled through the state's economy. By reducing part of the sequester cuts and providing certainty and stability over the next two years, this plan puts Congress on a path to fund the government without legislating from one crisis to the next.'" [Luján press release, 12/12/13]

Luján Criticized Murray-Ryan Budget Deal For Failing To Include Extension Of Unemployment Benefits. "Democratic Rep. Ben Ray Luján raised concerns that the deal doesn't include an extension of unemployment benefits. 'Failure to act on this critical extension during this difficult economic time would leave 6,000 unemployed workers in New Mexico without benefits at the end of the year and an additional 9,700 people without benefits in the first six months of 2014,' Luján said." [Albuquerque Journal, 12/12/13]

Pay-As-You-Go

Luján Expressed Support For Pay-As-You-Go Spending Plans For Federal Programs. "Luján emphasized the value of federal programs in lending a hand in New Mexico, such as providing subsidies to farmers and ranchers in addition to ongoing federal support for the state's national labs and military bases. To better fund such programs, Luján said he would back pay-as-you-go federal spending plans requiring Congress to fully fund programs when implemented. 'What I'm suggesting is you go find targeted cuts or revenues to be able to pay for those programs,' Luján said." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/24/14]

Luján Supported Reinstating PAYGO System. "Luján advocated a return to the PAYGO system used to balance the budgets under the Clinton administration. He noted that Congress adopted a pay-as-you-go initiative in 2010, but claimed that the House had eliminated that in 2011." [Los Alamos Monitor, 10/15/14]

Sequestration

Luján Voted Against Budget Control Act. In August 2011, Luján voted against passage of the bill that would provide a process to reduce the deficit by up to $2.4 trillion. The measure would allow the president to raise the debt limit immediately by $400 billion, with an additional $500 billion subject to a resolution of disapproval. It would set discretionary spending caps that would reduce the deficit by $917 billion in fiscal 2012 through 2021 and establish a firewall between security and non-security spending for fiscal 2012 and 2013. It would establish a bipartisan, bicameral committee tasked with making recommendations to reduce the deficit by $1.5 trillion. It would require across-the-board cuts to non-exempt discretionary and mandatory accounts by up to $1.2 trillion over fiscal 2013 through 2021 if committee reductions totaling $1.2 trillion were not enacted. The measure would require Congress to vote on a balanced-budget constitutional amendment by the end of 2011. It also would provide for an additional debt limit increase of $1.2 trillion to $1.5 trillion, subject to a resolution of disapproval. [S 365, Vote #690, 8/1/11]

Albuquerque Journal: "Luján Was Short On Specific Programs He Would Be Willing To Cut." "Pearce and Rep. Ben Ray Luján, D-N.M., both opposed the initial legislation leading to the sequester, which was triggered by a crisis over the nation's debt ceiling. Lujan said he's been actively lobbying House leaders to stave off cuts to New Mexico's national laboratories, which he and other delegation member described as vital to national security and competitiveness. Luján was short on specific programs he would be willing to cut, aside from echoing Udall and Lujan Grisham's concerns about Medicare. However, he cited a Defense Department NASCAR sponsorship that costs as much as $80 million annually and has come under fire from other Democrats as a symbol of budget excesses. 'I'm a fan of NASCAR but those kind of programs ... add up quickly,' Luján said." [Albuquerque Journal, 1/14/13]

Shutdown

Luján Backed Deal To End Shutdown, Criticized Short-Term Debt Limit Fix. "U.S. Rep. Ben Ray Lujan, D-Santa Fe, said the deal was imperfect, but essential. 'While I would have preferred legislation that extends the debt limit for a longer period and that funds the government at a higher level, this represents a compromise that will finally end the government shutdown that has hurt families in New Mexico,' Lujan said. He said the compromise would 'protect the full faith and credit of our nation by ensuring we do not default for the first time in history.' Like Heinrich, Lujan said the shutdown was unnecessary and needlessly hurt people. He said the compromise 'puts an end to the political games that have gone on too long. It is deeply disappointing that, once again, manufactured crises have taken a toll on our economy and on the day-to-day lives of people in New Mexico who have had to go without a paycheck or the benefits they count on.'" [Alamogordo Daily News, 10/16/13]

Luján Voted Against Piecemeal Bill To Fund New Mexico's National Laboratories, Including Weapons Programs At NNSA. "The U.S. House voted 248-176 Friday to approve funding for weapons programs at the National Nuclear Security Administration and New Mexico's national laboratories through mid-December, but the bill's fate in the

Democratic-controlled Senate is uncertain at best. Rep. Steve Pearce, R-N.M., voted for the spending bill. Reps. Ben Ray Lujan and Michelle Lujan Grisham voted against it. . . . In a floor speech Friday, Lujan said the NNSA budget is critical to New Mexico, but he said the bill approved Friday would actually cut lab budgets because it retains sequester-level funding. He called the bill approved Friday a 'shame and a sham.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 10/11/13]

Luján Voted Against Piecemeal Bill To Fund Veterans Programs, National Parks. "Republican Rep. Steve Pearce was the only state U.S. House representative to vote three times Monday in favor of continuing federal support to veterans, keeping national park services, the Smithsonian, National Gallery of Art and U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum operating and to make other appropriations for 2014. Reps. Ben Ray Lujan and Michelle Lujan-Grisham, both Democrats, voted against appropriating funds for veterans' benefits and the parks service, Smithsonian and Holocaust Memorial. Both resolutions failed." [Roswell Daily Record, 10/1/13]

Luján Opposed "Political Games" In Republican Piecemeal Bill To Fund Head Start, Impact Aid. "U.S. Reps. Ann Kirkpatrick, D-Ariz., and Ben Ray Lujan, D-NM, offered the following statements on House Republicans' piecemeal bills for Head Start and Impact Aid. . . . 'It's time for House Republicans to stop playing political games and allow a vote on a clean funding bill that will reopen the government. Their cynical piecemeal approach picks winners and losers while failing to fund all of the areas that are critical to families in Indian Country. Voting on short-term funding for Impact Aid and Head Start ignore the fact that sequester cuts to vital education programs have seriously harmed Native American students. Rather than take steps to end the shutdown and find a solution that ends the sequester, House Republicans continue to bend to the extreme elements in their party, leaving tribal communities to pay the price.'" [Kirkpatrick press release, 10/8/13]

Luján Kept Staff Working & Offices Open During Shutdown. "New Mexico's congressional delegation braced for a government shutdown in widely divergent ways. All members will remain on the job, but their staffs face different fates. Republican Rep. Steve Pearce plans to shut all of his offices and furlough all his staff during the shutdown while Democratic Rep. Ben Ray Luján plans to keep all staff working and all offices open." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/1/13]

Crime and Public Safety Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2014, Luján voted against an amendment to end the federal program that allows military equipment to be transferred to local police*
- ✓ *Luján has voiced support for medical marijuana and said decriminalization should be considered "in some instances"*

Local Law Enforcement

Luján Voted Against Grayson Amendment To End Federal Program Allowing Military Equipment To Be Transferred To Local Police. "On a late night in June, the U.S. House of Representatives was debating a routine military spending bill when Rep. Alan Grayson offered an unusual amendment. The Florida Democrat asked his colleagues to end a federal program that allows the U.S. military to transfer - free of charge - its high-powered weaponry and other war fighting equipment to local police. . . . Grayson's House colleagues quickly trounced his amendment on a 355-62 vote with New Mexico Reps. Steve Pearce, a Republican, and Ben Ray Lujan, a Democrat, voting against it. Democratic Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham was in Albuquerque attending a funeral and missed the vote, her spokesman said." [Albuquerque Journal, 8/24/14]

> **Luján Called For Review Of Military Equipment Transfers To Local Police In Wake Of Ferguson.** "Ben Ray Lujan, D-N.M., agreed: 'This situation has made it clear that a review of the policies and programs that have allowed the events of Ferguson to transpire - including the transfer of military equipment to police forces - is needed.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 8/24/14]

Marijuana

Luján Supported Medical Marijuana, Did Not Back Full Decriminalization. "Rep. Ben Ray Luján, D-N.M., supports medical marijuana and backed an amendment that would prohibit the Justice Department from prosecuting people who are in compliance with their state's medical marijuana laws. He said drug policy should remain a priority. He does not support outright legalization 'at this time,' his spokesman told me. 'Substance abuse -- and in particular prescription drug abuse and heroin use -- remains a great concern in New Mexico, and addressing this issue that tears too many families apart must continue to be a high priority for both the United States and Mexico,' Luján said." [Albuquerque Journal, 12/2/12]

Luján Said State Should "Watch Closely" Developments In Colorado & Washington Following Marijuana Legalization. "Asked about legalizing recreational marijuana use, as neighboring Colorado has done, Byrd said he is opposed, while Luján said New Mexicans should 'watch closely' the developments in Colorado and Washington." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/16/14]

Luján Said Marijuana Decriminalization Should Be Considered "In Some Instances." "Rep. Ben Ray Lujan, a Democrat, said 'the data is showing there should definitely be more support for decriminalization in some instances, but I still want to see everything that's out there.' Lujan also pointed to a 2013 vote of Congress to remove hemp - a type of cannabis sativa used to make rope, wax, paper and other products - from the list of federally controlled substances as a sign of change. 'I would say that's a reflection that at least some elected officials that represent the United States have changed their approach to the way they are looking at this subject and are open to conversation,' Lujan said." [Editorial, Albuquerque Journal, 8/3/14]

Defense & National Security Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2013, Luján "declined to take a position" on the nomination of Chuck Hagel as Defense Secretary*
- ✓ *In 2010, Luján voted against a one year extension of the PATRIOT Act*
- ✓ *In 2012, Luján voted for FISA reauthorization*
- ✓ *In 2011, Luján was one of 130 members to vote to strike funding for the Selective Service system*

Appointments

Luján "Declined To Take A Position" On Nomination Of Hagel As Defense Secretary. "When Chuck Hagel appears before the Senate Armed Services Committee today for a hearing on his nomination as U.S. defense secretary, all five members of New Mexico's congressional delegation will have one common question on their minds: What will Hagel do to protect Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories? . . . Rep. Ben Ray Luján D-N.M., declined to take a position on Hagel's nomination. . . . Rep. Ben Ray Luján declined to say whether he would support or oppose Hagel's nomination, saying that is a decision for Udall and Heinrich to make on behalf of the state. He said the labs' work in nuclear nonproliferation will remain an important national priority even as the U.S. moves to meet its obligation under the New START treaty and beyond." [Albuquerque Journal, 1/31/13]

Cybersecurity & Surveillance Issues

Luján Voted Against One Year Extension Of PATRIOT Act. In February 2010, Luján voted against a Conyers, D-Mich., motion to concur in the Senate amendments to the bill that would extend until Feb. 28, 2011, three provisions of the anti-terrorism law known as the Patriot Act. The provisions allow the government to request access to "any tangible things" it says is related to a terrorism investigation, to seek court orders for "roving" wiretaps on suspects who use multiple devices or modes of communication, and to allow federal law enforcement officials to seek warrants to conduct surveillance of "lone wolf" foreign terrorist suspects who may not be connected to a larger terrorist group. The bill passed, 315-97, with 162 Democrats voting yes and 87 voting no. [HR 3961, Vote #67, 2/25/10]

Luján Voted Against Requiring Director Of National Intelligence To Cooperate With GAO Congressional Inquiries. In May 2010, Luján voted against Eshoo, D-Calif., amendment that would require the director of national intelligence (DNI) to cooperate with Government Accountability Office (GAO) inquiries initiated by congressional committees. It also would allow committees to request GAO audits of the intelligence

community and allow the DNI to designate certain reports or portions of reports as sensitive or reportable only to the intelligence committees. The amendment was adopted, 218-210, with 206 Democrats voting yes and 49 voting no. [HR 5136, Vote #315, 5/27/10]

Luján Voted For FISA Reauthorization. In September 2012, Luján voted for passage of the bill that would reauthorize for five years, through 2017, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which governs electronic surveillance of foreign terrorism suspects. The law allows surveillance of foreign targets who may be communicating with people in the United States provided that the secret FISA court approves surveillance procedures. It would allow the attorney general and director of national intelligence to jointly authorize, for up to one year, investigations involving surveillance targeting foreigners who are reasonably believed to be located outside the United States. The bill passed, 301-118, with 74 Democrats voting yes and 111 voting no. [HR 5949, Vote #569, 9/12/12]

Luján Voted For Measure To Defund NSA Mass Surveillance Program. "The state's House delegation, Democratic U.S. Reps. Ben Ray Luján, Michelle Lujan Grisham and Republican Steve Pearce, also are calling for less NSA spying and more accountability. All three voted last summer to defund the NSA mass surveillance program, through an amendment to the Defense Department's annual appropriation bill that failed narrowly." [Editorial, Santa Fe New Mexican, 12/19/13]

Defense Authorization & Spending

Luján Voted Against 2013 Defense Authorization Bill, Objected To Efforts To Exempt Defense Funding From Sequestration. "New Mexico's U.S. House Democrats parted ways last week on a defense authorization bill President Barack Obama has threatened to veto. Rep. Martin Heinrich voted with most House Republicans for the 2013 defense authorization bill on Friday, while fellow Democrat Rep. Ben Ray Luján voted against it. . . . Luján said the defense measure is counter to the spirit of a federal debt deal Congress reached last summer that could require deep Pentagon cuts. 'The bill is another step in Republicans' efforts to undermine the sequester they agreed to by increasing military spending in exchange for deeper cuts to education, health care and investments in innovation that will negatively impact New Mexico's families,' Luján said." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/22/12]

Luján Voted Against Reducing OCO Account By $12.7 Billion. In July 2012, Luján voted against a Garamendi, D-Calif., amendment that would reduce funding provided in the Overseas Contingency Operations account by $12.7 billion. The reduction would not apply to: the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund; the Defense Health Program; Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense; Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Fund; or the Office of the Inspector General. The amendment failed, 137-278, with 129 Democrats voting yes and 50 voting no. [HR 5856, Vote #494, 7/19/12]

Selective Service

Luján Voted To Strike Funding For Selective Service System. In February 2011, Luján voted for a DeFazio, D-Ore., amendment that would strike the $24 million in funding for the salaries and expenses account of the Selective Service System. The amendment was rejected, 130-301, with 86 Democrats voting yes and 105 voting no. [HR 1, Vote #59, 2/16/11]

Disaster Aid

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In January 2013, Luján was one of 51 to vote against adoption of a rule to provide for consideration of $17 billion in Hurricane Sandy relief and recovery efforts*

Hurricane Sandy

Luján Voted Against Adoption Of Rule To Provide For Consideration Of $17 Billion In Hurricane Sandy Aid. In January 2013, Luján voted against adoption of the rule (H Res 23) that would provide for House floor consideration of the bill that would provide $17 billion in emergency funding for relief and recovery efforts to victims of Superstorm Sandy. The rule was adopted, 367-52, with 142 Democrats voting yes and 51 voting no. [HR 152, Vote #12, 1/15/13]

Education Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2014, Luján backed legislation to help create new charter schools*
- ✓ *In 2013, Luján was one of 31 members to vote against a deal to cap federal student loan rates*
- ✓ *Luján repeatedly criticized No Child Left Behind on the campaign trail but has also stated that reforms should not drastically reduce the role of the federal government*
- ✓ *In 2007, Luján proposed instituting a federal minimum wage for teachers*

Charter Schools

Luján Backed Legislation To Help Create New Charter Schools. "New Mexico's U.S. House members plan to vote for a rare, bipartisan education bill on the House floor today that would help create new charter schools across the country. The bill would authorize $300million per year from 2015 through 2020 and consolidate two existing federal programs. It would also encourage replication of existing high-quality charter schools and help pay for new buildings. Charter schools, which often boast higher student achievement than regular public schools, typically use taxpayer dollars but are run by outside organizations. Critics contend they siphon money from low-performing schools that need it most. Reps. Michelle Lujan Grisham and Ben Ray Luján, both New Mexico Democrats, told the Journal this week that they will work to ensure any federal charter school law contains mechanisms for 'transparency and accountability.' Rep. Steve Pearce, R-N.M., supports the bill." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/8/14]

> **Legislation Included Luján Provision To Encourage Teacher Training & Mentoring In STEM.** "Luján said the bill contains a proposal he offered in the last Congress that calls for charter schools to establish plans for teacher training and mentoring in science, technology, engineering and math. 'Our nation's competitiveness depends upon our ability to educate our students, and while charter schools can offer innovative educational programs, it is important that they are held to the same accountability and transparency standards as traditional public schools,' Luján said." [Albuquerque Journal, 5/8/14]

Luján Pledged To Ensure Any Federal Charter School Law Has Mechanisms For "Transparency And Accountability." "It is important to note that the charter school movement has had problems and bad actors - schools that use tax dollars to pay multiple salaries to individuals and/or don't deliver on their mission. But New Mexico Democratic Reps. Michelle Lujan Grisham and Ben Ray Luján recognize the importance of improving

the state's perennially near-bottom rankings and say they will work to ensure any federal charter school law has mechanisms for 'transparency and accountability.' That's all any parent, taxpayer, business leader, government official and great teacher should want - a system that wisely uses the finite amount of education spending available to best serve students by preparing them for infinite possibilities in postsecondary education and/or the workplace." [Editorial, Albuquerque Journal, 5/13/14]

Loans

Luján Voted Against Deal To Cap Federal Student Loan Rates. In July 2013, Luján voted against a Kline, R-Minn., motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill that would set federal student loan interest rates issued after July 1, 2013 to the Treasury Department's 10-year borrowing rate, plus 2.05 percent for subsidized and unsubsidized undergraduate loans, 3.6 percent for graduate loans and 4.6 percent for PLUS loans. The loan rates would be capped at 8.25 percent, 9.5 percent and 10.5 percent, respectively. It would require the Government Accountability Office to submit a report to Congress within four months detailing the federal government's cost of administering the student loan program and recommendations to avoid generating additional revenue from the program. The bill passed, 392-31, with 171 Democrats voting yes and 25 voting no. [HR 1911, Vote #426, 7/31/13]

No Child Left Behind

Luján: "We Need To Scrap No Child Left Behind." "'We need to scrap No Child Left Behind,' Luján said. 'Education is more than a test score. We have to get back to teaching them to think.' Congress should follow New Mexico's lead and set a minimum, living wage for teachers. Luján said he would push for national 'teachers corps' program similar to the Peace Corps that would bring qualified teachers to rural districts struggling to find teachers." [Taos News, 12/27/07]

Luján Denounced No Child Left Behind Program. "Luján has denounced No Child Left Behind, the federal legislation that gauges schools' performance through regular standardized testing, but he supports the Department of Education. 'There's important investments made in education from the federal government, and New Mexico benefits from those investments,' he said. Luján said schools will improve with the eradication of No Child Left Behind - or at least an overhaul of the legislation - so that teachers can focus less on testing and more on critical thinking and creativity." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/10/10]

Luján Warned Against NCLB Reforms That Drastically Reduced" Federal Government Oversight Of Education. "In Journal interviews last week, Udall and the three other Democrats in New Mexico's congressional delegation agreed the NCLB law needs to be rewritten and standardized testing de-emphasized - at least somewhat. But they also cautioned against stripping away too much federal oversight as part of the legislative overhaul. The Department of Education uses testing and achievement scores to track progress. 'It's important that the federal role in education is not drastically reduced,' said Rep. Ben Ray Luján, D-N.M. 'That's one of the most important roles of the federal government - oversight.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 2/1/15]

Teacher Pay

Luján Supported Federal Minimum Wage For Teachers. “Lujan said he would advocate "progressive values" in Washington, pushing for universal health care, a federal minimum salary for teachers and an end to the Iraq war.” [Albuquerque Journal, 12/15/07]

Energy Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Luján supported cap and trade legislation*
- ✓ *Luján opposed ethanol subsidies & backed striking ethanol from the Renewable Energy Standard*
- ✓ *In 2013, Luján offered a poison pill amendment to a bill intended to approve Resolution copper mine*
- ✓ *Luján has consistently supported natural gas, including expedited permitting of LNG exports and incentives for natural gas vehicles*
- ✓ *In 2011, Luján voted against an amendment to make permanent the moratorium on Gulf drilling*
- ✓ *In 2013, Luján was one of a small number of Democrats to vote against a series of amendments that would increase renewable energy funding*

Appropriations

Luján Voted For FY15 Energy-Water Appropriations Bill. In July 2014, Luján voted for Passage of the bill that would provide $34.0 billion in fiscal 2015 to fund the Energy Department, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Interior Department's Bureau of Reclamation and several regional water and power authorities. It would provide $27.3 billion for the Energy Department, of which $11.4 billion would be designated for the National Nuclear Security Administration. It also would provide $5.6 billion for the Army Corps of Engineers and $1 billion for the Interior Department's Bureau of Reclamation. The bill passed, 253-170, with 35 Democrats voting yes and 159 voting no. [HR 4923, Vote #402, 7/10/14]

Cap & Trade

Luján Backed Cap & Trade Legislation. "Lujan, by contrast, has voted for cap-and-trade legislation regulating greenhouse gas emissions." [Santa Fe Reporter, 8/4/12-8/14/12]

Ethanol

Luján Voted Against Federal Funding For Ethanol Blender & Storage Facilities. In February 2011, Luján voted for a Flake, R-Ariz., amendment that would bar the use of funds made available in the bill for the construction of an ethanol blender pump or an ethanol storage facility. The amendment was adopted, 261-158, with 78 Democrats voting yes and 105 voting no. [HR 1, Vote #125, 2/19/11]

Luján Opposed Corn-Based Ethanol, Backed Striking Ethanol From RES. "U.S. Rep. Ben Ray Lujan, D-N.M, told his Clovis constituents Thursday he does not support the use of ethanol derived from corn, and it should be stricken from the Renewable Energy Standard. 'The question has been, 'should food be used to operate machinery?'' Lujan said. 'The growing consensus is that it shouldn't.' Lujan said during a stop at the Clovis-Carver Public Library that using corn for fuel takes away from the nation's food supply, and in turn raises food, and cattle feed prices." [Clovis News Journal, 8/23/13]

Keystone XL

Luján Introduced Amendment To Require Crude Transported Through Keystone Pipeline To Be Used Domestically. "Lujan offered an amendment that would require all crude oil transported by the pipeline to be used domestically. The amendment, which was rejected 13-31, ran into bipartisan opposition, with Republicans calling it a messaging amendment and another opportunity to force delays. Democrats Green, Matheson, Mike Doyle of Pennsylvania and Jerry McNerney of California voted with Republicans against Lujan's amendment." [CQ News, 4/17/13]

Luján Supported Amendment To Block Keystone Unless Committee Determined Project Would Reduce Price Of Gasoline Domestically. "The panel rejected, 16-31, an amendment by Jan Schakowsky, D-Ill., that would prevent the bill from taking effect unless the Energy and Commerce Committee finds that operation of the Keystone XL pipeline would reduce the price of gasoline in the United States. 'We should make sure the project will deliver,' Ben Ray Lujan, D-N.M., said." [CQ News, 4/17/13]

Mining

Luján Offered "Poison Pill" Amendment To Bill Intended To Approve Resolution Copper Mine. "Resolution Copper wants to swap 5,344 acres of land around Arizona for 2,422 acres of ore-rich federal land. The swap requires congressional action, and it appeared to be headed for House approval until Rep. Ben Ray Lujan, D-N.M., offered an amendment to allow the secretary of Interior to remove any areas he considers sacred or cultural. . . . If protection of sacred sites in the Resolution exchange is the only purpose, the Lujan amendment is superfluous. It can only be described as a poison pill. This land exchange would protect environmentally sensitive land currently owned by Resolution. It is expected to generate 3,700 jobs and $61billion in economic activity. And it protects the sacred site of Apache Leap. The House should reject Lujan's amendment and advance a bill that does so much good." [Editorial, Arizona Republic, 10/3/13]

Natural Gas

Luján Pushed Natural Gas As Primary Transportation Fuel. "Democratic Rep. Ben Ray Luján told Albuquerque business leaders Tuesday that the U.S. must look to natural gas as a primary transportation fuel to lower travel costs while boosting New Mexico's natural gas industry. Luján, the second-term representative representing northern New Mexico's 3rd Congressional District, told members of the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce that the nation must to commit to developing the infrastructure necessary to

make natural gas a feasible alternative to gasoline, which is more expensive and produces more pollutants. 'Why not make an investment that keeps those dollars at home?' Luján said, referring to recently failed legislation that would have provided incentives for trucking fleets to switch to natural gas." [Albuquerque Journal, 8/22/12]

Luján Voted For Bill To Require Expedited Permitting Of LNG Export Applications. In June 2014, Luján voted for Passage of the bill that would require the Energy Department to expedite decisions on applications to export liquefied natural gas. As amended, it would require that a decision on pending applications be made within 30 days of the bill's enactment or the close of the application's public comment period, whichever is later. It would require that all applications publicly disclose the specific nation or nations that would receive the proposed export of liquefied natural gas. The bill passed, 266-150, with 46 Democrats voting yes and 148 voting no. [HR 6, Vote #359, 6/25/14]

Luján Voted For Bill To Expedite Permitting Of LNG Exports. In January 2015, Luján voted for passage of the bill that would require the Energy Department to make a decision on pending applications to export liquefied natural gas within 30 days of the bill's enactment or at the end of the public comment period, whichever is later. Under the bill, applications would have to publicly disclose the countries that would receive the proposed exports. It also would authorize the U.S. Court of Appeals for the circuit where the proposed export facility will be located to exercise original and exclusive jurisdiction over any civil action pertaining to such applications. The court would be required to order the Energy Department to approve any applications within 30 days if it finds the agency did not issue a decision by the bill's deadline. The bill passed, 277-133, with 41 Democrats voting yes and 132 voting no. [HR 351, Vote #50, 1/28/15]

Luján Backed Legislation To Provide Incentives For Buying & Building Natural Gas Vehicles. "San Juan County can strengthen its economy by retrofitting vehicles to run on natural gas and propane, U.S. Rep. Ben Ray Lujan said Tuesday during a local visit. 'It's a good concept,' said Lujan, the Democratic representative for District 3. He said converting engines to burn natural gas or propane would create jobs and use New Mexico's resources to make money and keep it circulating locally. He supports the Natural Gas Act, which proposes incentives for buying and building natural-gas vehicles, he said. But the Farmington region needs fueling stations before large numbers of trucks, buses and cars can be converted, he said." [Farmington Daily Times, 3/31/15]

Nuclear

Watchdog Group Criticized Luján For Backing Appropriations Bill That Provided Billions For NNSA's Weapons Programs. "Lawmakers in the House of Representatives last week approved the Fiscal Year 2014 Energy and Water Appropriations Act. All three representatives from New Mexico including Ben Ray Lujan (D-N.M.) voted for it. 'This funding is important to ensure the safety of the nuclear weapons stockpile as the United States reduces its stockpile under the new START Treaty,' Lujan said. The bill provided $7.7 billion for the NNSA's weapons program and $2.1 billion for nonproliferation. . . . Jay Coghlan, director of Nuclear Watch New Mexico, commented, 'Congressman Ben Ray Luján should ask himself the question what good does a Cold War nuclear bomb that the for-profit labs want to endlessly tinker with do for New Mexican children? Pork for the labs should not drive nuclear weapons policies, especially when it's of little if any tangible benefit to average New Mexicans. Luján should, instead, dedicate himself to boosting funding for programs that would really help our children but are facing painful sequester cuts, such as education, medical care and food assistance. Those investments would really

brighten their future, and help raise New Mexico from its shameful position as the worst state for kids.'" [Los Alamos Monitor, 7/13/13]

> **Headline: Los Alamos Monitor: "Critics blast Luján's nuclear stance."** [Los Alamos Monitor, 7/13/13]
>
> **Los Alamos Study Group Rep Slammed Luján For Voting Against Amendments To Move NNSA Nuclear Weapons Funding To Energy Accounts.** "Greg Mello of the Los Alamos Study Group said Lujan voted against at least six amendments that would moved funds from the NNSA nuclear 'weapons activities' account to energy, energy reliability and energy efficiency accounts. 'In short, Rep. Lujan is a 100 percent status-quo nuclear man,' Mello said. 'The claims on his web site to be working for a 'clean energy economy' are not accurate and need to be very carefully parsed.'" [Los Alamos Monitor, 7/13/13]
>
> **Luján Spokesperson Defended Funding As Necessary To Ensure Safety Of Nuclear Weapons Stockpile.** "Lujan spokesperson Andrew Stoddard responded to the accusations. 'I would reiterate Rep. Luján's comment that this funding is important to ensure the safety of the nuclear weapons stockpile as the United States reduces its stockpile under the new START Treaty,' Stoddard said. 'And since they mention the important issues of sequestration and food assistance, I would also point out that Rep. Luján has voted against sequestration every step of the way and repeatedly voted for efforts to stop these devastating across-the-board cuts that are harming our economy and having a negative impact on New Mexico's families. Just today, he voted against House Republicans' farm bill that strips out funding for nutrition programs that help prevent our children from going to bed hungry.'" [Los Alamos Monitor, 7/13/13]

Luján Suggested Congress Proceed With Caution On Plan To Increase Production Of Plutonium Pits At Los Alamos To Replace Aging Pits. "Los Alamos National Laboratory, birthplace of the atomic bomb, could ramp up production of triggers for nuclear weapons to levels not seen since the Cold War, if federal defense and energy officials get their way. The federal government sees the site atop a rugged canyon cliff overlooking the vast expanse of plateaus and distant hills in Northern New Mexico as the perfect place -- really, the only one -- for an ambitious mission to massively increase production of plutonium pits -- the softball-sized cores that can have the explosive power of the Nagasaki bomb. The pits are used to set off thermonuclear reactions in weapons tens of thousands of times more powerful than the pits themselves. The new pits would not be used for new weapons, proponents of the plan say, but to replace aging pits in the nation's nuclear stockpile. . . . Luján said he also embraces nonproliferation, but he believes the existing stockpile should be well maintained, and that Los Alamos should play a big role in that. But he did not commit to a firm position on the plan described in the report and said Congress should proceed cautiously. 'While this report discusses many of the factors that go into pit production, there are a number of questions that remain,' Luján said, 'along with the need for significant discussion and research to determine the best path forward.'" [Santa Fe New Mexican, 8/24/14]

Oil Drilling

Luján Expressed Reservations On Obama Administration Plan To Expand Domestic Oil Drilling. "Most of New Mexico's congressional delegation praised a White House plan to expand domestic oil drilling Wednesday, calling it a responsible way to increase energy independence while remaining dedicated to environmental protection. Rep. Ben Ray Luján, D-N.M., expressed reservations that the plan would be the solution to

America's dependence on foreign oil, although he did not criticize President Barack Obama directly. 'We must remember that the United States has just 2 percent of the world's reserves, and simply opening up and expanding offshore drilling will leave us far short of our goals of energy independence and national security,' said Luján, of the state's 3rd Congressional District." [Albuquerque Journal, 4/1/10]

Luján Voted Against Requiring Approval Of Washington State Government For OCS Drilling Off Coast Of Washington. In May 2011, Luján voted against an Inslee, D-Wash., amendment no. 8 that would require approval from the Washington state governor and legislature before the Interior Department makes available for leasing any area of the outer continental shelf off the coast of Washington. The amendment was rejected, 160-256, with 150 Democrats voting yes and 36 voting no. [HR 1231, Vote #318, 5/12/11]

Luján Voted Against Permanent Moratorium On Gulf Drilling. In May 2011, Luján voted against Brown, D-Fla., amendment no. 6 that would make permanent the current moratorium on oil and gas drilling in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico. The amendment failed, 134-279, with 129 Democrats voting yes and 57 voting no. [HR 1231, Vote #316, 5/12/11]

Renewable Energy

Luján Voted Against Amendment To Increase Renewable Energy Funding, Offset By Reduction In Energy Department Salaries. In July 2013, Luján voted against a Peters, D-Calif., amendment that would increase by $10 million the amount provided for energy efficiency and renewable-energy activities, offset by an equal reduction to the amount provided for Energy Department salaries and expenses. The amendment was rejected, 191-223, with 183 Democrats voting yes and 7 voting no. [HR 2609, Vote #320, 7/9/13]
NOTE: Luján voted against dozens of similar amendments during this appropriations debate.

Environmental Issues

Significant Findings

✓ *In 2011, Luján sided with northern NM cattle grazers against environmentalists in fight over reduced cattle grazing allotments*

Cattle Grazing

Luján Angered Environmental Groups By Siding With Cattle Grazers Against Forest Service In Fight Over Reduced Cattle Grazing Allotments. "The Almanac of American Politics states that Lujan 'is known as a hard worker who has diligently ascended in his party's ranks. Lujan has a liberal voting record, but he has not been as far to the left as Udall,' the book states. 'He sided with northern New Mexico ranchers in 2011 in their fight against the U.S. Forest Service over reducing cattle-grazing allotments within the Santa Fe and Carson National Forests, a position that dismayed state environmental groups.'" [Santa Fe New Mexican, 10/11/14]

Ethics & Campaign Finance

Significant Findings

✓ *Luján cosponsored legislation to overturn Citizens United*

✓ *Luján cosponsored a congressional pay freeze*

Anthony Weiner

Luján Declined To Call On Weiner To Resign. "U.S. Reps. Ben Ray Luján and Martin Heinrich, both D-N.M., said they supported Pelosi's call for an ethics investigation. They told the Journal they were focused on the work of Congress and not Weiner's troubles. . . . Luján called the scandal 'disappointing' but would not say whether he should resign. 'This situation is disappointing, and I support an investigation to determine if House rules were broken, but my focus right now is on my work in New Mexico to put people back to work and protect Medicare,' Luján said." [Albuquerque Journal, 6/8/11]

Citizens United

Luján Sponsored Legislation To Overturn Citizens United And DISCLOSE Act. "Congressman Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico's Third District announced today that he is supporting a pair of measures aimed at limiting money in politics by overturning the Citizens United Supreme Court decision and increasing transparency in elections. Lujan is a cosponsor of the DISCLOSE Act and the Democracy for All Amendment, which would amend the Constitution. 'Five years ago, Citizens United opened up the floodgates of special-interest money into our political system. Since that time, we've seen the rise of Super PACs that can spend unlimited amounts of money while hiding their donors and preventing the American people from finding the truth behind where their money comes from,' Congressman Lujan said. 'The legislation I am supporting would increase transparency in our electoral system and restore accountability, while ensuring that a wealthy few do not drown out the voices of the American people.'" [Luján press release, 1/21/15]

Member Perks

Luján Cosponsored Congressional Pay Freeze. "Congressman Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico's Third District released the following statement today after cosponsoring H.R. 3858, legislation that blocks a cost-of-living adjustment for members of Congress and freezes their pay for the next fiscal year. 'During these tough times, while too many New Mexicans are still looking for work and families are struggling to get by, members of Congress should not be getting an automatic pay raise. It is critical that as public servants, we make it clear to the American people that our focus is on turning our economy around and putting them back to work, not enhancing our own bottom line. Freezing the pay of members of Congress while our constituents are still suffering from the deepest recession in a generation will help send that message. I encourage the Republican leaders in the House to bring this legislation up for a vote without delay.'" [Luján press release, 2/11/12]

Luján Voted To Prohibit Member Offices From Leasing Vehicles. In May 2014, Luján voted for a Nugent, R-Fla., amendment that would prohibit the chief administrative officer of the House of Representatives from making any payments from any members' representational allowance for the leasing of a vehicle, excluding mobile district offices. The amendment failed, 196-221, with 59 Democrats voting yes and 132 voting no. [HR 4887, Vote #188, 5/1/14]

Financial Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2012, Luján voted to audit the Federal Reserve*
- ✓ *Luján opposed the bailout and voted against releasing the second half of TARP funds in January 2009*
- ✓ *Luján sponsored legislation to tax AIG bonuses at 90%*

Derivatives

Luján Voted Against Requiring Additional Study On Implementing Derivatives Reform. In July 2013, Luján voted against a Fincher, R-Tenn., motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill that would direct the Financial Stability Oversight Council to study the differences between the United States and other jurisdictions in implementing the derivatives credit valuation adjustment (CVA) capital requirement. The CVA is part of the Basel III agreement, which would establish higher capital requirements for banks. The study would address the effect on U.S. financial institutions, end users of derivatives and international derivatives markets. The bill passed, 353-24, with 146 Democrats voting yes and 24 voting no. [HR 1341, Vote #305, 7/8/13]

Federal Reserve

Luján Voted To Audit The Federal Reserve. In July 2012, Luján voted for an Issa, R-Calif., motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill that would direct the Government Accountability Office to audit all actions of the Federal Reserve and issue a report to Congress within 12 months of enactment. The bill passed, 327-98, with 89 Democrats voting yes and 97 voting no. [HR 459, Vote #513, 7/25/12]

TARP

Luján Would Have Voted Against Bailout. "All three candidates said they would have voted against the economic bailout plan. Lujan called it a 'blank check without any accountability' and said it didn't go far enough in helping keep people in their homes." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/20/08]

Luján Voted To Block Release Of $350 Billion In Additional TARP Funding. "Today, Rep. Ben Ray Lujan voted to not release $350 billion in additional TARP funds. Rep. Lujan issued the following statement following the vote. 'The people of New Mexico want and deserve oversight of their tax dollars,' said Lujan. 'The release of the second part of the TARP funds without any added oversight is troubling. While this vote will not prevent the release of funds because of Senate action and while I have confidence that the Obama Administration will be wiser stewards of the public trust than the Bush Administration-I still want reassurances added to the release of funds either through legislative or executive action.'" [Luján press release, 1/22/09]

Luján Voted To Prevent The Release Of The Second Half Of TARP Funds. In January 2009, Luján voted for passage of the joint resolution that would prevent the release of the second half of the $700 billion provided under the 2008 financial industry bailout law. The resolution passed, 270-155, with 99 Democrats voting yes and 151 voting no. [HJ Res 3, Vote #27, 1/22/09]

Wall Street Reform

Luján Sponsored Legislation To Tax AIG Bonuses At 90%. "Count New Mexico's congressional delegation among the chorus of public officials voicing outrage this week about the bonuses being paid to AIG executives. . . . Rep. Ben Ray Luján, D-N.M., went even further. He cosponsored a bill last week that would recoup bonuses for AIG executives by taxing them at a rate of 90 percent. 'Companies that requested federal dollars to keep their businesses solvent should not funnel this money toward bonuses for their colleagues,' Luján said." [Albuquerque Journal, 3/21/09]

Foreign Policy Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2009, Luján opposed a troop increase in Afghanistan*
- ✓ *Luján voted with 76 other members to require a special envoy to ease tensions and normalize relations with Iran*
- ✓ *In November 2009, Luján was one of 22 House members to vote "present" on resolution denouncing UN report accusing Israel of war crimes*
- ✓ *In 2014, Luján voted against arming Syrian rebels*

Afghanistan

Headline: Albuquerque Journal: "Luján Opposes More Troops in Afghanistan." [Albuquerque Journal, 9/29/09]

Luján Urged Administration To Reject Troop Increase In Afghanistan. "The New Mexico Democrat signed a letter with 57 of his House colleagues last week urging President Barack Obama to reject a troop increase. Luján said he is worried that a longterm counterinsurgency would require hundreds of thousands of troops. . . . 'We need to give support to the Afghan people through humanitarian and diplomatic means, but troop increases are troubling at this time,' Luján said in a statement. 'I urge the administration to reject a troop increase.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 9/29/09]

Cuba

Luján Called For "Concrete Steps" From Cuban Government In Response To Administration Plan To Ease Restrictions. "Luján said he hopes Cuba lives up to the expectation the U.S. will have in the new relationship. 'It is important that we examine our relationship with Cuba and ensure that we are charting a path that encourages political freedom and respect for human rights,' Luján said. 'The changes President Obama outlined today must be met with concrete steps from the Cuban government that achieve these goals. I look forward to reviewing the President's plan in greater detail to assess the full impact it will have on the United States and Cuba.'" [Albuquerque Journal ,12/18/14]

Iran

Luján Voted To Require Special Envoy To Ease Tensions & Normalize Relations With Iran. In May 2012, Luján voted for a Lee, D-Calif., amendment that would require the president, in consultation with the secretary of State, to appoint a special envoy to ease tensions and normalize relations between the United States and Iran. It also would recommend that it should be U.S. policy to prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon.

The amendment failed, 77-344, with 75 Democrats voting yes and 108 voting no. [HR 4310, Vote #285, 5/18/12]

ISIS

Luján: Any Authorization For Military Force Against ISIS Should Have Clear Goals & Exit, Not Commit Ground Troops. "As the White House prepares to ask Congress for a resolution formally authorizing U.S. military force against the Islamic State terror group, New Mexico's delegation is wary but eager to see details of the proposal. . . . Rep. Ben Ray Luján, D-N.M., said, 'Congress and the president must work together to ensure that any AUMF to address the threat of ISIL has clear goals, a clear exit, is precise, and does not commit U.S. combat troops on the ground. The path forward must also involve a greater commitment from our allies in the region and a focus on disrupting ISIL's access to funding and weapons. I will look closely at the AUMF to see if it meets these standards.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 2/11/15]

Israel

Luján Acknowledged "Concerns" With Scheduling & Timing Of Netanyahu Speech, Pledged Support For Israel. "Rep. Ben Ray Luján, a Democrat and the chairman of the Democrat Congressional Campaign Committee, also said he will be there - grudgingly. 'I plan to attend the Prime Minister's speech,' Lujan said in a statement to the Journal on Friday. 'I do, however have concerns with how this speech was scheduled and the timing. Our commitment to Israel must remain bipartisan. The failure to properly consult with the White House and Congressional Democrats needlessly injected partisan politics into this issue.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 3/1/15]

Luján Was One Of 22 House Members To Vote "Present" On Resolution Denouncing UN Report Accusing Israel Of War Crimes. "A U.N.-sponsored report that accuses both Hamas and Israel of war crimes - and is especially tough on Israel - was overwhelmingly denounced by the U.S. House last week, but Reps. Martin Heinrich and Ben Ray Luján avoided an up or down vote on the issue. Instead of voting yea or nay, Heinrich of Albuquerque and Lujan if Santa Fe, both Democrats, voted 'present.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 11/11/09]

> **Albuquerque Rabbi Said Luján Vote "Gives [Him] Some Concern."** "Rabbi Joe Black of Congregation Albert in Albuquerque said the fact Heinrich and Luján simply voted present 'gives me some concern.' 'It's important they understand all sides of this issue,' Black told the Journal in a telephone interview Tuesday. 'It doesn't mean I think Israel could do no wrong, but I thought it (the report) was inappropriately critical of Israel and did not take into account the facts on the ground as I understood them.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 11/11/09]
>
> **Luján Office: House Resolution "Did Not Move Us Toward A Lasting Peace."** "Luján's office provided the Journal with a similar response. 'Rep. Luján is a strong supporter of Israel, a critical ally,' said Mark Nicastre, Lujan's spokesman. 'Earlier this year, he supported the House Resolution 34, which recognized Israel's right to defend itself against attacks from Gaza, reaffirmed the United States' strong support for Israel, and supported the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. His present vote reflected the fact

that the recent resolution did not move us toward a lasting peace, as should always be our goal.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 11/11/09]

Libya

Luján Voted To Bar Use Of Funds For Military Action In Libya. In July 2011, Luján voted for an Amash, R-Mich., amendment that would bar the use of funds in the bill to fund the use of military force in Libya. The amendment failed, 199-229, with 67 Democrats voting yes and 123 voting no. [HR 2219, Vote #514, 7/7/11]

Luján Voted To Direct President To Remove Armed Forces From Libya Within 15 Days. In June 2011, Luján voted for adoption of the concurrent resolution that would direct the president, pursuant to the War Powers Resolution, to remove U.S. armed forces from Libya within 15 days of the resolution's adoption. The resolution was rejected, 148-265, with 61 Democrats voting yes and 121 voting no. [H Con Res 51, Vote #412, 6/3/11]

Syria

Luján Offered Tentative Support For Obama Plan To Conduct Airstrikes In Syria. "Two of New Mexico's congressional challengers are voicing opposition to President Barack Obama's strategy to target Islamic State fighters in Iraq and Syria using airstrikes rather than American 'boots on the ground.' . . . Representatives Luján and Lujan Grisham voiced tentative support for Obama's strategy. 'I believe that Congress and the president must work together to ensure the strategy has clear goals, a clear exit, is precise, and does not commit U.S. combat troops on the ground,' Luján said." [Albuquerque Journal, 9/12/14]

Luján Broke With Delegation, Voted Against Measure To Arm Syrian Rebels. "The House voted a day earlier to approve equipping the Syrian rebels but, unlike in the Senate, their vote was separate from the domestic spending bill. Rep. Ben Ray Lujan voted against arming the rebels, while Reps. Steve Pearce and Michelle Lujan Grisham voted for it. Lujan said he supports air strikes against ISIS, but has 'serious concerns' about handing over U.S. arms to the rebels. 'While the amendment calls for the vetting and reporting on every person recruited for training, it does not prevent individuals with ties to extremist or terrorist groups from participating,' Lujan said. 'I am also concerned that the conflict in the region has the potential to escalate and further entangle our country in a civil war in Syria.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 9/21/14]

Luján Expressed Concerns With NDAA Provisions To Equip & Train Syrian Rebels. "Rep. Ben Ray Lujan, D-Santa Fe, said although he had serious concerns with the current plan to equip and train Syrian rebels, he was happy the New Mexico provisions were added. 'While I do not support everything in this bill, it does include important provisions that are key priorities for communities across New Mexico, including critical funding for environmental cleanup at Los Alamos National Laboratory,' Lujan said in a statement." [Associated Press, 12/5/14]

Gun Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2013, Luján downplayed the importance of an assault weapons ban*
- ✓ *Luján supported Manchin-Toomey background check deal*
- ✓ *Luján has repeatedly voted in support of concealed carry reciprocity legislation and against further concealed carry restrictions*
- ✓ *In February 2011, Luján voted against reporting requirements for multiple firearm importers*
- ✓ *Luján backed magazine restrictions after initially expressing skepticism*
- ✓ *In 2010, Luján was endorsed by the NRA – he accepted $3500 in contributions in 2010-2011*

Assault Weapon Ban

Luján Suggested Assault Weapon Ban Should Not Be A Priority. "Lujan also did not address the assault weapons ban issue in his initial statement. I asked his office for more clarity and they sent me this additional statement from Lujan, which seems to suggest he doesn't think such a ban should be a priority. The word I'm hearing on Capitol Hill today is that such a ban is seen as less politically feasible - especially in the GOP-controlled House - than other measures in the president's package of proposals. 'I think it's important that we have discussions on all aspects of this debate and I'll closely examine any legislation that comes to the House floor, however, I believe that addressing the size of high-capacity magazines and implementing universal background checks are the most effective policies to stop massacres that have become too common in our society,' Lujan said." [Albuquerque Journal, 1/16/13]

Background Checks

Luján Backed Expanded Background Checks, Expressed Disappointment In Senate's Rejection Of Manchin-Toomey Provision. "Currently, mandatory background checks apply only to purchases from licensed firearms dealers. The so-called Manchin-Toomey amendment would have expanded the checks to include firearms purchased online or from advertisements, but not to guns acquired from friends and relatives. . . . New Mexico's Democratic U.S. House members -- Reps. Michelle Lujan Grisham and Ben Ray Luján -- condemned the Senate vote and urged Congress to keep pushing the issue. . . . 'I

was disappointed that the bipartisan amendment to expand background checks in an effort to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and the mentally ill failed to pass the Senate this afternoon,' Luján said." [Albuquerque Journal, 4/18/13]

Concealed Carry

Luján Voted To Allow Concealed Carry Reciprocity Across State Borders. In November 2011, Luján voted for passage of the bill that would require states that allow the carrying of concealed firearms to recognize concealed-carry permits issued by other states. It also would require the Government Accountability Office, within one year of the bill's enactment, to conduct an audit of state laws that allow the issuance of concealed-carry licenses and permits to non-residents and report on the effectiveness of those laws and the impact on public safety. The bill passed, 272-154, with 43 Democrats voting yes and 147 voting no. [HR 822, Vote #852, 11/16/11]

Luján Voted Against Restrictions On Concealed Carry Reciprocity To Require Law Enforcement Advance Notification. In November 2011, Luján voted against a Jackson Lee, D-Texas, amendment no. 8 that would require that an individual notify a state's designated law enforcement agency at least 24 hours in advance of carrying a concealed firearm, permitted in one state, into the second state. The amendment was rejected, 123-299, with 123 Democrats voting yes and 65 voting no. [HR 822, Vote #849, 11/16/11]

Luján Voted Against Restriction On Concealed Carry Reciprocity To Include Age Limits In Second State. In November 2011, Luján voted against a Cohen, D-Tenn., amendment no. 7 that would make individuals who carry concealed handguns, permitted in one state, across state lines as would be allowed under the bill subject to laws in the second state requiring them to be at least 21 to carry a concealed handgun. The amendment failed, 150-276, with 149 Democrats voting yes and 41 voting no. [HR 822, Vote #848, 11/16/11]

Luján Voted Against Restriction On Concealed Carry Reciprocity To Include Safety Training Requirements In Second State. In November 2011, Luján voted against a Johnson, D-Ga., amendment no. 6 that would make individuals who carry concealed handguns, permitted in one state, across state lines as would be allowed under the bill subject to laws in the second state requiring them to receive firearm safety training, including live-fire exercises, to carry a concealed handgun. The amendment failed, 144-281, with 144 Democrats voting yes and 46 voting no. [HR 822, Vote #847, 11/16/11]

Luján Voted Against Restriction On Concealed Carry Reciprocity To Require A Carry Permit Database. In November 2011, Luján voted against a Jackson Lee, D-Texas, amendment no. 4 that would allow individuals to carry concealed handguns, permitted in one state, across state lines only into states that maintain a complete database of all concealed-carry permits and licenses issued by the state and make that database available to law enforcement officers from all states 24 hours a day. The amendment failed, 139-284, with 138 Democrats voting yes and 51 voting no. [HR 822, Vote #846, 11/16/11]

Luján Voted Against Restriction On Concealed Carry Reciprocity To Require In-Person Application. In November 2011, Luján voted against a Hastings, D-Fla., amendment no. 3 that would allow individuals to carry concealed handguns, permitted in one state, across state lines only into states that require them to apply for the permits in person. The amendment failed, 148-277, with 147 Democrats voting yes and 43 voting no. [HR 822, Vote #845, 11/16/11]

Luján Voted Against Restriction On Concealed Carry Reciprocity To Require States To Opt In To Reciprocity. In November 2011, Luján voted against a McCarthy, D-N.Y., amendment no. 2 that would require that the bill's provisions apply only to states that enact laws opting in to those provisions. The amendment failed, 147-274, with 143 Democrats voting yes and 43 voting no. [HR 822, Vote #844, 11/16/11]

Importation

Luján Voted To Bar Requiring Reporting For Multiple Firearm Importers. In February 2011, Luján voted for a Boren, D-Okla., amendment that would bar the use of funds made available in the bill to require a person licensed to import, manufacture or deal in firearms or ammunition to report information to the Justice Department regarding the sale of multiple rifles or shotguns to the same person. The amendment was adopted, 277-149, with 41 Democrats voting yes and 147 voting no. [HR 1, Vote #115, 2/18/11]

Magazine Limits

Luján Backed Limits On High-Capacity Magazines After Initially Expressing Skepticism. "Luján said he supported Obama's call for universal background checks on gun buyers, as well as his call to restrict high-capacity magazines, although Luján was initially skeptical of such a proposal. 'While I have expressed concern about limits on magazine capacity in the past, we have seen high-capacity magazines on any gun amplify the amount of destruction and loss of life that can be caused,' Lujan said. 'Focusing on the size of magazines is an important step to address these horrific events while taking into account 2nd Amendment rights and our responsibility to promote public safety.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 1/17/13]

NRA

NRA Endorsed Luján For Reelection In 2010, Citing Support For Conceal Carry Reciprocity. "The National Rifle Association's political action committee announced Monday that it wants voters to keep all three incumbent Democrats from New Mexico in the U.S. House of Representatives, including Rep. Ben Ray Luján of Santa Fe. . . . The NRA's political action committee said on its website that it endorsed Luján because he supported several pieces of gun legislation. These included a bill to ensure that a person who filed for bankruptcy wouldn't lose their firearms; and a bill to extend federal protection of states' right to allow people with state concealed-carry licenses to carry a concealed weapon in any state." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 10/5/10]

NRA Contributed $3500 To Luján Campaign In 2010 & 2011. In 2010 and 2011, the NRA Political Victory Fund contributed a total of $3500 to Luján's campaign for the U.S. House:

Lujan, Ben R Mr. **Via** People For Ben	10/29/2010	2500.00	11930433327
Lujan, Ben R Mr. **Via** People For Ben	09/13/2011	1000.00	11972218627

[FEC – NRA Political Victory Fund , accessed 12/14/15]

Lujan Was One Of 11 Democrats That Received Support From NRA To Break With Organization & Vote Against Holding Attorney General Holder In Contempt. "Eleven of the 25 House Democrats who've taken money this year from the National Rifle Association rejected the group's call to support Thursday's contempt vote against Attorney

General Eric Holder. The NRA has contributed a total of $43,450 to the reelection campaigns of those 25 Democrats this cycle, according to numbers from the Center for Responsive Politics. Fourteen of them voted in favor of the criminal contempt resolution, eight voted against and three did not vote at all. Reps. John Dingell (D- Mich.), Tim Holden (D-Pa.), Tim Ryan (D-Ohio), Kurt Schrader (D-Ore.), Michael Michaud (D-Maine), Henry Cuellar (D-Texas), Ben Ray Lujan (D-N.M.) and Heath Shuler (D-N.C.) voted against holding Holder in contempt." [Politico, 6/28/12]

> **Headline: Politico: "11 Democrats defy the NRA on Holder."** [Politico, 6/28/12]
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> **NRA Representative: "Votes Have Consequences."** "Andrew Arulanandam, director of public affairs for the NRA, said he couldn't say for sure if the congressmen who voted against holding Holder in contempt would lose all future support. 'Votes have consequences,' he said. 'That's all I can tell you at this point.'" [Politico, 6/28/12]

Health Care Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2103, Luján backed delaying the ACA enrollment deadline in the wake of widespread website problems*
- ✓ *In 2010, Luján expressed skepticism regarding the proposal to tax Cadillac health plans*
- ✓ *In 2009 and 2010, Luján was an adamant supporter of the public option and suggested he would support a surtax on wealthy Americans and small business owners to pay for a public option*

Affordable Care Act

Luján: "If Improvements Need To Be Made To Make [ACA] Work Better, We Need To Do That." "Rep. Ben Ray Luján, a Democrat, said he spent a lot of time in hospitals before the December 2012 death of his father, former New Mexico House Speaker Ben Lujan, who lost a battle with lung cancer. The health care horror stories the congressman heard from fellow patients and their families convinced him that Obamacare is a step in the right direction from the previous insurance system. 'The environment was a very unfair one when it came to people getting the treatment they need,' he said. 'But if improvements need to be made to make it work better, we need to do that.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 1/14/14]

Luján Backed Delaying Enrollment Deadline For ACA In Wake Of Website Problems. Few House Democrats have voiced support for a delay, but on Thursday Rep. Ben Ray Luján, D-N.M., told the Journal he was open to the idea. 'The problems facing HealthCare.gov are disappointing and unacceptable,' Lujan said. 'The administration is working around the clock to fix them; however, if adjusting any deadlines will better achieve the overall goals of providing affordable, quality health care to the people of New Mexico, the Congress should certainly be open to doing so.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 11/1/13]

Luján Backed Switch To State-Based Exchanges For Congressional Health Insurance, Supported Continued Federal Premium Payments. "Members of Congress and their staffs can rest easier during the August recess after the Obama administration last week agreed to fix a glitch in the Affordable Care Act that could have cost them thousands extra for health insurance each year. . . . Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham and Rep. Ben Ray Luján, both New Mexico Democrats, supported the switch to state-based exchanges for congressional health insurance. . . . 'Members of Congress and their staff are subject to the law just like everyone else, and we should look for solutions that meet this principle,' Luján said. When I pressed them on the federal premium assistance question, staffers for Luján, Lujan Grisham and Sen. Tom Udall, D-N.M., said their bosses supported continued federal premium payments." [Legal Monitor Worldwide, 8/6/13]

Luján Denounced Cornhusker Kickback In Senate Version Of Healthcare Reform Bill. "Heinrich and Lujan both cited a giveaway to Sen. Ben Nelson, a Democrat from Nebraska, that would force the federal government to pay for new Medicaid enrollees in Nebraska as especially odious. Heinrich said the provision 'stinks.' Lujan essentially agreed. 'I don't support what they did in there with Sen. Nelson, specifically, where people across the country are having to provide additional support for one state,' Lujan said. 'What they did for Sen. Nelson doesn't help New Mexico.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 1/20/10]

Luján Expressed Skepticism Regarding Proposal To Tax Cadillac Health Plans. "Mark Nicastre, a spokesman for Rep. Ben Ray Luján, said Luján would rather generate savings from Medicare and Medicaid overhauls 'and offsets coming from those in the very top income brackets who have benefited the most from the Bush tax cuts.' 'Rep. Luján is encouraged that the threshold has been raised, but he wants to see a more comprehensive analysis of those affected by the changes in the legislation,' Lujan said." [Albuquerque Journal, 1/16/10]

Farmington Daily Times Editor: Luján's One-On-One Constituent Meetings At Expense Of Town Halls Had The "Appearance Of Cowardice." "The area Luján represents is gargantuan. Still, he is my representative in Congress, so when I learned he'd be having five-minute one-on-one meetings with constituents, I decided to go and talk with him. . . . I don't blame Luján for trying to avoid the fiasco that town hall meetings have become for lawmakers as of late, but there must be an easier way. Five-minute one-on-ones is an inelegant system, and if the time length isn't enforced, it looks like you're favoring some people over others. Whether it was the intent or not, this system has the appearance of cowardice. And as a politician, Luján shouldn't need a lecture from me on the importance of appearance." [Patrick Hogan, Farmington Daily Times, 8/27/09]

Affordable Care Act – Public Option

Luján Was "Strong Supporter" Of Public Option. "While this bill is not perfect, the cost of doing nothing would have been far too high. Like many of you, I am a strong supporter of a public option. I advocated for the public option and supported it when it passed the House. I continued to advocate for its inclusion when discussion of the Senate legislation began. But the road to a great health insurance system can start with the road to a better health insurance system. That is what this legislation does." [Luján, Taos News, 3/25/10]

Headline: Press Release: "Lujan: We Must Demand a Public Option." [Luján press release, 10/23/09]

Luján Signed Letter Vowing To Vote Against Any Healthcare Reform Bill Without A Public Option. "Luján did note that his name was among those of 50 congressmen included on a "whip" list - a list of private pledges made by members of Congress before a vote on the issue in July - that was attached to a letter vowing to vote against any bill that does not include a 'robust public option.' 'As I've talked to more people, as I've listened and studied this issue, it's clear it's critical that we have a mechanism in there that keeps costs down,' Luján said. 'That mechanism is the public option.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 9/5/09]

Luján Suggested He Would Support Surtax On Wealthy Americans, Small Business Owners To Pay For Public Option. "A House bill that would levy new taxes on wealthy Americans - and some small-business owners - drew skepticism from most of New

Mexico’s all-Democrat congressional delegation last week, though some members said the proposal is worth considering. . . . The House bill also would require employers with payrolls larger than $250,000 annually to provide insurance to employees or pay the government a penalty of 8 percent of payroll. . . . Rep. Ben Ray Luján of Santa Fe agreed that cost savings should be a priority, but he said the surtax proposal is not necessarily a bad one. ‘This surcharge associated with reforming health care would only apply to those that are earning the highest 1 or 1.2 percent,’ he said. ‘I’m sure there would be some households (in New Mexico) that would be affected, but they are also households that benefited from the Bush tax cuts ...’” [Albuquerque Journal, 7/19/09]

Immigration and Border Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *Luján advocated for President Obama to tax executive action on the deferred deportation policy*
- ✓ *In 2013, Luján urged DHS to work with the state of New Mexico on implementation of REAL ID given the state's encouragement to undocumented immigrants to apply for driver's licenses*
- ✓ *In 2009, Luján voted against an amendment to bar the use of federal funds to employ undocumented workers*

Border Security

Luján Voted For Amendment To Add $10 Million In Funding For Border Security Fencing. In June 2012, Luján voted for a Poe, R-Texas, amendment that would increase by $10 million the amount for border security fencing, infrastructure and technology expenses and reduce by the same amount funding for expenses for the Office of the Undersecretary for Management. The amendment was adopted, 302-113, with 81 Democrats voting yes and 99 voting no. [HR 5855, Vote #352, 6/6/12]

Comprehensive Reform

Luján Pushed Comprehensive Immigration Reform, Said Border Security Was Important But Illegal Crossings Had Dropped Dramatically In Recent Years. "Rep. Ben Ray Luján, D-N.M., said those who would oppose comprehensive immigration reform simply because a bill doesn't aggressively target border enforcement are misguided. He said border security 'should be a part of the conversation' but pointed out that illegal border crossings have decreased dramatically over the past five years. Luján also said the immigration bill offers a chance to issue more H1-B visas to highly skilled immigrants who show entrepreneurial and job-creating potential. 'As we look at the tech industry -- including Intel here in New Mexico -- we realize how important strengthening an H1-B visa program is,' Luján said. 'We want to make it a very vibrant environment associated with the tech industry.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 4/9/13]

Deportation – DACA/DAPA

Luján Encouraged Obama To Take Executive Action On Deferred Deportation Policy. "On Thursday, Luján attended a Capitol Hill press conference with about two-dozen other Democrats to drum up support for Obama's plan. Afterward, he told the Journal that if the Republican-led House won't pass immigration legislation already approved by the Senate then Obama should take unilateral action. 'We are collectively asking and encouraging President Obama to be bold and use the full extent of his executive authority to do what's right for millions of immigrants here in the United States,' Luján said. 'We were very clear that families can no longer wait for House Republicans to

act.' Luján stressed that U.S. presidents have long used their executive powers to change immigration policy, so Obama would not be the first." [Albuquerque Journal, 11/16/14]

REAL ID

Luján Urged DHS To Work With State Of New Mexico On Implementation Given State's Encouragement To Undocumented Immigrants To Apply For Driver's Licenses. In a January 2013 letter to DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano, Luján wrote, "According to the Insurance Research Council, over a quarter of New Mexico drivers lack insurance-the second highest rate in the nation. To partially address this problem, the state has sought to encourage all of its drivers, including non-citizens and undocumented immigrants, to attain a driver's license in order to then obtain auto insurance. A number of other states, including Utah and Illinois, are currently working with your Department to ensure that their residents are able to obtain either a drivers license or a REAL ID-compliant identification card according to their personal needs. According to the Insurance Research Council, over a quarter of New Mexico drivers lack insurance-the second highest rate in the nation. To partially address this problem, the state has sought to encourage all of its drivers, including non-citizens and undocumented immigrants, to attain a driver's license in order to then obtain auto insurance. A number of other states, including Utah and Illinois, are currently working with your Department to ensure that their residents are able to obtain either a drivers license or a REAL ID-compliant identification card according to their personal needs." [Luján press release, 1/16/13]

Undocumented Workers

Luján Voted Against Barring Use Of Federal Funds To Employ Illegal Workers. In June 2009, Luján voted against a King, R-Iowa, amendment that would bar the use of funds in the bill to employ illegal workers, as defined in the Immigration and Nationality Act. The amendment was adopted, 349-84, with 172 Democrats voting yes and 84 voting no. [HR 2892, Vote #442, 6/24/09]

Labor & Working Family Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2012 and 2013, Luján backed extensions of the federal civilian pay freeze*

Federal Workers

Luján Voted For Extending Federal Civilian Pay Freeze Through 2013. In January 2013, Luján voted for an Issa, R-Calif., motion to suspend the rules and pass a bill that would extend the current statutory pay freeze for federal civilian employees, including members of Congress, through Dec. 31, 2013. The bill passed, 287-129, with 55 Democrats voting yes and 127 voting no. [HR 6726, Vote #655, 1/1/13]

Luján Voted For Extending Federal Worker Pay Freeze Through 2013. In February 2012, Luján voted for a Ross, R-Fla., motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill that would extend an existing pay freeze on federal employees for an additional year, through Dec. 31, 2013, and apply the same pay freeze to members of Congress. The motion passed, 309-117, with 72 Democrats voting yes and 115 voting no. [HR 3835, Vote #19, 2/1/12]

Minimum Wage

Luján "Open" To Minimum Wage Increase – "I Don't Have A Specific Position On The Dollar Amount Right Now." "New Mexico's congressional delegation gave mostly strong reviews of President Obama's State of the Union speech Tuesday night, and Democrats were receptive to his proposal to raise the federal minimum wage. . . . He also said he's 'open' to raising the minimum wage. 'We'll take a close look at what the president put on the table,' Lujan said. 'I don't have a specific position on the dollar amount right now…but I'm sure it wasn't an arbitrary number from the president. I just want to look at some of the details behind it.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 2/13/13]

LGBT Issues

Significant Findings

✓ *Luján supported marriage equality*

Marriage Equality

Luján Applauded New Mexico Supreme Court Ruling On Marriage Equality, Called It "Matter Of Civil Rights." "The New Mexico Supreme Court ruling legalizing same-gender marriage prompted reactions across the United States. U.S. Senators Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich and U.S. Reps. Ben Ray Luján and Michelle Lujan Grisham issued a joint statement applauding the ruling. . . . 'Today's decision by the New Mexico Supreme Court ensures that every couple can make the personal choice of marriage,' said Luján. 'Marriage equality is a matter of civil rights and treating all people who are in loving and committed relationships fairly. Gay and lesbian couples make the same contributions and sacrifices that we all do, including paying taxes, owning business and caring for their families. Now everyone will be treated equally under the law.'" [Los Alamos Monitor, 12/21/13]

Tax Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ *In 2010, Luján voted against extending the Bush tax cuts for two years*
- ✓ *In 2011, Luján pledged to support measures to ease the estate tax*

Bush Tax Cuts

Luján Voted Against Extending Bush Tax Cuts For Two Years. In December 2010, Luján voted against a Levin, D-Mich., motion to concur in the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the bill that would extend the 2001- and 2003-enacted tax cuts for all taxpayers for two years and revive the lapsed estate tax, setting the tax rate at 35 percent on estates worth more than $5 million for 2011 and 2012. It also would extend unemployment insurance benefits for 13 months and cut the employee portion of the Social Security tax by 2 percentage points. The motion was agreed to, 277-148 with 139 Democrats voting yes and 112 voting no. [H R 4853, Vote #647, 12/17/10]

Estate Tax

Luján Pledged To Support Measures To Ease Estate Taxes. "He also pledged his support in easing estate taxes that Pesco officials said can force businesses like theirs to sell rather than remain in the family. 'I agree, and count on me to support that,' Luján said. Pesco was founded in 1970 by Edwin Rhodes after his job as district manager at Black, Sivalls and Bryson dried up. His family continues to carry on the business and occupies most key positions in the company." [Farmington Daily Times, 4/19/11]

PILT

Luján Supported Long-Term PILT Funding. "Lujan said he advocates for long-term funding of a federal program that provides San Juan County approximately $2.2 million a year. The program, known as the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program, compensates counties nationally though largely those in Western states for the federal land within their borders that cannot be developed or included in property tax collections. . . . Lujan said he signed a letter with many of his colleagues supporting long-term PILT funding. "The ultimate goal is to get multi-year funding," he said." [Farmington Daily Times, 3/31/15]

Technology Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ In 2014, Luján cosponsored net neutrality legislation
- ✓ In 2011, Luján cosponsored the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA)
- ✓ In 2014, Luján voted against a bill that would allow consumers to unlock their cell phones

Net Neutrality

Luján Cosponsored Net Neutrality Bill. "Rep. Ben Ray Luján (D-03) is cosponsoring a House bill to prevent broadband providers from blocking or discriminating against content online. The New Mexican Democrat is one of several representatives on the Energy and Commerce Committee backing H.R. 3982, the Open Internet Preservation Act. A companion bill is being drafted in the Senate and has the backing of Sen. Tom Udall. 'A free and open Internet has spawned countless innovations that have impacted our lives for the better and spurred economic growth,' Luján said in a statement. 'It is essential that we keep the innovative spirit alive by ensuring that we have a system that does not block access to content on the Web.'" [Albuquerque Business First, 2/5/14]

SOPA/PIPA

Luján Cosponsored SOPA Legislation. "New Mexico Democratic US Rep. Ben Ray Lujan and Sen. Tom Udall respectively cosponsored the House and Senate versions of the bill in October and November. Both bills would increase the authority of the US Department of Justice and copyright holders to file court orders against websites suspected of illegally sharing copyrighted files. Under the Houses Stop Online Piracy Act, for example, the DOJ can order payment providers like PayPal to shut down pay accounts on foreign websites suspected of offering things like illicit movie downloads. . . . Lujan, who says online piracy 'stifles innovation,' adds that the danger of 'rogue websites' goes beyond pirating. He's cosponsoring SOPA partly because it cracks down on websites that sell 'counterfeit and contaminated' medicine to seniors, he writes in an email to SFR. Pharmaceutical companies like Pfizer support the legislation for this reason." [Santa Fe Reporter, 1/4/12-1/10/12]

Telecommunications

Luján Voted Against Bill To Allow Consumers To Unlock Their Cell Phones. "The bill was passed with a 295-114 vote. The legislation is known as the 'Unlocking Consumer Choice and Wireless Competition Act'. Rep. Ben Ray Luján (D-03) was among those voting against the bill. Luján, in a statement, said he made his decision because he believes the act was changed at the last minute in a way that weakens consumers' ownership rights. 'While this is a complex issue, what is at stake is straightforward,' he said. 'This is not just about the ability to unlock a phone and choose your mobile network, it is about the use of copyright laws to limit the freedom and choices of consumers. Instead of clarifying a

questionable legal interpretation that prevents consumers from using their electronic devices for legal purposes, this bill legitimates that decision and allows anti-competitive practices to become legally enforceable. Many would agree that consumers should be able to unlock their phone or use electronic devices for legal purposes without running afoul of copyright law. Unfortunately this bill does not provide the straightforward solution that it did before the bill was changed.' Luján pointed out that consumer groups Public Knowledge and the Electronic Frontier Foundation had also withdrawn their support for the legislation." [Albuquerque Business First, 2/26/14]

Trade Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ In 2011, Luján opposed the South Korea, Colombia and Panama trade deals, citing concerns regarding a loss of manufacturing jobs and intellectual property protections
- ✓ In 2015, the Albuquerque Journal slammed Luján and other delegation Democrats for opposing TPA & TPP

South Korea, Colombia & Panama Trade Deals

Luján Opposed South Korea, Colombia & Panama Trade Deals, Cited Concerns With Loss Of Manufacturing Jobs, Intellectual Property Protections. "Reps. Martin Heinrich and Ben Ray Lujan, both Democrats, opposed all three deals. . . . Lujan said he had 'serious concerns' that all three deals would cut manufacturing jobs and make it easier for corporations to move their headquarters or major factories overseas to take advantage of cheaper labor and tax loopholes. Lujan also said the deals offered few intellectual property protections, a potential problem for many innovative businesses in New Mexico. 'Innovators and entrepreneurs need to know that their intellectual property will be protected and these agreements do not go far enough,' he said." [Albuquerque Journal, 10/16/11]

Trade Promotion Authority & Trans-Pacific Partnership

Albuquerque Journal Editorial Slammed Luján, Delegation Democrats For Opposing TPA & TPP. "Imagine what the export totals could be if the tariffs and red tape were cut. So why would the Democrats in the state's congressional delegation be so vehemently opposed to leveling the playing field for their constituents? . . . New Mexico's senators missed an opportunity Tuesday to tilt things in the favor of New Mexico and the nation. Constituents can only hope the opportunity presents itself again, because isolationism doesn't work. As the Trade Representative Office says, 'the question isn't should we trade; it's how. ... There is a cost to doing nothing.' And New Mexicans and Americans shouldn't have to pay that price." [Editorial, Albuquerque Journal, 5/13/15]

Transportation

Significant Findings

✓ In 2012, Luján was one of four Democrats to vote to bar federal spending on high-speed rail in California

High-Speed Rail

Luján Voted To Bar Federal Spending On High-Speed Rail In California. In June 2012, Luján voted for a Denham, R-Calif., amendment that would bar the use of funds in the bill for high-speed rail in California or for the California High-Speed Rail Authority. The amendment was adopted, 239-185, with 4 Democrats voting yes and 183 voting no. [HR 5972, Vote #448, 6/29/12]

Veterans' Issues

Significant Findings

- ✓ In 2015, Luján voted against the MilCon-VA appropriations bill, citing VFW criticism of the bill
- ✓ In 2014, Luján voted against legislation that would have restored benefits cut from military retiree COLA increases at the expense of Medicare
- ✓ In 2014, Luján called for Secretary Shinseki's resignation

Appropriations

Luján Voted Against MilCon-VA Appropriations Bill, Cited VFW Criticism Of Bill. "'The VFW has called this 'a bad bill for veterans' and I agree. The Republican spending bill does not provide the necessary resources to fully address the challenges facing the VA and fails to honor the commitment made to our veterans. VA Secretary McDonald has said that cuts in this bill are the equivalent of 70,000 fewer veterans receiving VA medical care,' Congressman Luján said." [Luján press release, 5/5/15]

COLA

Luján Voted Against Legislation That Restored Military Retiree COLA Cut While Cutting Medicare. "Congressman Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico's Third District voted yesterday against a House Republican proposal that undermines Medicare and pits seniors against military retirees. The legislation addresses a provision in the budget agreement that was passed by Congress in December that reduced the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to pensions for military retirees - but it does so by extending sequester cuts to Medicare. 'I support action to restore the full cost of living adjustment for military retirees who have spent a career serving their country, but it's disappointing that House Republicans offered a bill that cut Medicare to pay for it,' Congressman Lujan said. 'We need a solution that does not pick winners and losers between military retirees and our nation's seniors.'" [Luján press release, 2/12/14]

VA Delays & Scandal

Luján Called For Shinseki's Resignation. "In calling for Shinseki to resign, Luján said in a statement that he believes 'other VA officials or employees that are responsible for this despicable and disrespectful treatment of our veterans must step down as well.'" [Albuquerque Journal, 5/30/14]

Luján Joined With Delegation In Demanding Answers After Albuquerque VA Officials Failed To Provide Information On Management Policies & Practices. "New Mexico's congressional delegation is demanding answers from the Veterans Administration after Albuquerque VA officials told congressional staffers this week that

they must submit federal Freedom of Information Act requests to learn more about VA health care policies. All five delegation members - Democratic Sens. Martin Heinrich and Tom Udall, Democratic Reps. Michelle Lujan Grisham and Ben Ray Lujan, and Republican Rep. Steve Pearce - signed a letter to Sloan D. Gibson, the acting VA secretary on Thursday. The letter said the Albuquerque VA's insistence that members of Congress file official requests for information showed 'an alarming ignorance or an utter disregard' for congressional oversight." [Albuquerque Journal, 7/10/14]

Appendices

Public Records Requests

Public Regulation Commission

To: Melanie Sandoval
Records Custodian
New Mexico Public Regulation Commission
From: Gordon Loewen
612-229-5621
2728 Harriet Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Ms. Sandoval,
Pursuant to the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act, please let this serve as a written request to inspect records.

I would like to inspect and acquire copies of the following records, where permitted by the Act:

- All minutes, agendas, or open meeting notices of Public Regulation Commission meetings, for every meeting, occurring during the calendar years 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008;
- Any communications, made available to the public under the Inspection of Public Records Act, originating from or directed to former Commissioner Ben Ray Lujan during his time with the Commission, regardless of the format in which the communication occurred or whether it occurred between Commissioner Lujan and a member of the public or Commissioner Lujan and other commissioners or government employees. Also including any communications about or pertaining to Commissioner Lujan, that mentions him by name but may not have necessarily originated or terminated with Commissioner Lujan himself;
- Any personnel or employment records pertinent to Commissioner Ben Ray Lujan, deemed available to the public under the Inspection of Public Records Act, including but not limited to: salary and other compensation details and totals, disciplinary records, travel logs, and office budgets particular to Commissioner Lujan's personal office;
- Any documentation of proposed or enacted budgets of the Public Regulation Commission, in any and all of their operations, during the calendar years 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008;
- Any other records kept by the Commission that specifically document former Commissioner Ben Ray Lujan's work for the Commission, provided that such documentation is sufficiently easy to identify and produce so as to not cause this entire request to be deemed to lack "reasonable particularity" under the act.

If your agency does not maintain these public records, please let me know who does, and include the proper custodian's name and address.

I agree to pay the applicable fees for copying and transmitting the records. If the charges will exceed $ 250, please call me to discuss. I understand that I may be asked to pay the fees in advance.

I would prefer, whenever possible, to receive the records in the electronic format in which they are currently kept. I can appear at the Commission's office during the week of July 20-24, 2015 to obtain copies and inspect records. If you are unable to respond to any portion of the request by that time, please contact me by phone or email and I will be happy to work with you to make other arrangements.

Please provide an invoice or receipt indicating the charges for each document. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have regarding this request at either this email address or the phone number provided above. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Department of Cultural Affairs

To: Mary Ann Hatchitt
Records Custodian
New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs
From: Gordon Loewen
612-229-5621
2728 Harriet Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Ms. Hatchitt,
Pursuant to the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act, please let this serve as a written request to inspect records.

I would like to inspect and acquire copies of the following records, where permitted by the Act:

- All minutes, agendas, or open meeting notices of any Boards, Commissions, or working groups of which Ben Ray Lujan was a member or participant, ex-officio, permanent, voting, or otherwise during the calendar years 2003 and 2004 or any other time, term, or tenure in which he served said groups;
- Any communications, made available to the public under the Inspection of Public Records Act, originating from or directed to former Department of Cultural Affairs CFO and Administrative Services Director Ben Ray Lujan during his time with the Department, regardless of the format in which the communication occurred or whether it occurred between Lujan and a member of the public or Lujan and other Department employees or government employees. Also including any communications about or pertaining to Lujan, that mentions him by name but may not have necessarily originated or terminated with Lujan himself;
- Any personnel or employment records pertinent to Ben Ray Lujan, deemed available to the public under the Inspection of Public Records Act, including but not limited to: salary and other compensation details and totals, disciplinary records, travel logs, and office budgets particular to Lujan's office;
- Any documentation of proposed or enacted budgets of the Department of Cultural Affairs, in any and all of their operations, during the calendar years 2003 and 2004;

- Any other records kept by the Department that specifically document Ben Ray Lujan's work for the Department, provided that such documentation is sufficiently easy to identify and produce so as to not cause this entire request to be deemed to lack "reasonable particularity" under the act.

If your agency does not maintain these public records, please let me know who does, and include the proper custodian's name and address.

I agree to pay the applicable fees for copying and transmitting the records. If the charges will exceed $ 250, please call me to discuss. I understand that I may be asked to pay the fees in advance.

I would prefer, whenever possible, to receive the records in the electronic format in which they are currently kept. I can appear at the Department's office during the week of July 20-24, 2015 to obtain copies and inspect records. If you are unable to respond to any portion of the request by that time, please contact me by phone or email and I will be happy to work with you to make other arrangements.

Please provide an invoice or receipt indicating the charges for each document. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have regarding this request at either this email address or the phone number provided above. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

State Treasurer's Office

To: Cindy Cordova
Records Custodian
New Mexico State Treasurer's Office
From: Gordon Loewen
612-229-5621
2728 Harriet Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Ms. Cordova,
Pursuant to the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act, please let this serve as a written request to inspect records.

I would like to inspect and acquire copies of the following records, where permitted by the Act:

- Any reports, audits, accounting instruments, investment records, retirement association documents, state agency deposit account records, New Mexico Local Government Investment Pool records, state investment portfolio documents, or other investment or account management documents, that include Ben Ray Lujan's name as an originator, recipient, signatory, or otherwise, for the calendar years 2002 through 2008;
- All minutes, agendas, meeting materials or open meeting notices of the State Treasurer's Investment Committee, or of any Boards, Commissions, or working groups of which Ben Ray Lujan was a member or participant, ex-officio, permanent, voting, or otherwise during the calendar years 2002, 2003, and 2004 or any other time, term, or tenure in which he served said groups;
- Any communications, made available to the public under the Inspection of Public Records Act, originating from or directed to former Deputy State Treasurer Ben Ray

Lujan during his time with the Treasurer's office, regardless of the format in which the communication occurred or whether it occurred between Lujan and a member of the public or Lujan and other Treasurer's employees or government employees. Also including any communications about or pertaining to Lujan, that includes his name but may not have necessarily originated or terminated with Lujan himself;
- Any personnel or employment records pertinent to Ben Ray Lujan, deemed available to the public under the Inspection of Public Records Act, including but not limited to: salary and other compensation details and totals, disciplinary records, travel logs, and office budgets particular to Lujan's Deputy Treasurer's office;
- Any documentation of proposed or enacted budgets of the Treasurer's Office, in any and all of their operations, during the calendar years 2002, 2003, and 2004;
- Any other records kept by the Department that specifically document Ben Ray Lujan's work for the Department, provided that such documentation is sufficiently easy to identify and produce so as to not cause this entire request to be deemed to lack "reasonable particularity" under the act.

If your agency does not maintain these public records, please let me know who does, and include the proper custodian's name and address.

I agree to pay the applicable fees for copying and transmitting the records. If the charges will exceed $ 250, please call me to discuss. I understand that I may be asked to pay the fees in advance.

I would prefer, whenever possible, to receive the records in the electronic format in which they are currently kept. I can appear at the Commission's office during the week of July 20-24, 2015 to obtain copies and inspect records. If you are unable to respond to any portion of the request by that time, please contact me by phone or email and I will be happy to work with you to make other arrangements.

Please provide an invoice or receipt indicating the charges for each document. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have regarding this request at either this email address or the phone number provided above. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Gaming Control Board

To: Raechelle Camacho
Records Custodian
New Mexico Gaming Control Board
From: Gordon Loewen
612-229-5621
2728 Harriet Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Ms. Camacho,
Pursuant to the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act, please let this serve as a written request to inspect records.

I would like to inspect and acquire copies of the following records, where permitted by the Act:

- Any communications, made available to the public under the Inspection of Public Records Act, originating from or directed to Ben Ray Lujan during the years 1992-

2002 during which time he was an employee of regulated gaming entities including but not limited to: Pojoaque Pueblo Cities of Gold Casino, Harvey's Hotel and Casino, and the Downs at Albuquerque. Please provide any records regardless of the format in which the communication occurred or whether it occurred between Lujan and a member of the public or Lujan and Board or other government employees. Also including any communications about or pertaining to Lujan, that mention him by name but may not have necessarily originated or terminated with Lujan himself;

- Any personnel or employment records pertinent to Ben Ray Lujan, deemed available to the public under the Inspection of Public Records Act, including but not limited to: salary and other compensation details and totals, disciplinary records, or license information;
- Any other records kept by the Board that are pertinent to Ben Ray Lujan's work for any regulated gaming entities, provided that such documentation is sufficiently easy to identify and produce so as to not cause this entire request to be deemed to lack "reasonable particularity" under the act.

I am aware that you can only produce records kept by the Gaming Control Board, but if there are any records created by the gaming control board that are housed by other agencies, please notify me of said agency's custodian of records and the records they may be able to provide, where possible.

I agree to pay the applicable fees for copying and transmitting the records. If the charges will exceed $ 250, please call me to discuss. I understand that I may be asked to pay the fees in advance.

I would prefer, whenever possible, to receive the records in the electronic format in which they are currently kept. I can appear at the Commission's office during the week of July 20-24, 2015 to obtain copies and inspect records. If you are unable to respond to any portion of the request by that time, please contact me by phone or email and I will be happy to work with you to make other arrangements.

Please provide an invoice or receipt indicating the charges for each document. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have regarding this request at either this email address or the phone number provided above. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.